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In The King's Service

*A History of Woman's
Missionary Union
1886 - 1986*



First Baptist Church
Leigh, North Carolina

In The King's Service

*A History of
Woman's Missionary Union
1886 - 1986*

First Baptist Church
Raleigh, North Carolina

By
Jane Reavis Purser

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Dedication

In loving memory of those who preceded
me in the faith without whose inspiration
this book could not have been written

Reverend Ephraim Osborne
Jane Farnum Stephens
Tabitha Duke Best Reavis
Lucretia Ann Stephens Reavis



Miss Fannie E. S. Heck
President 1886-1915



Mrs. W. N. Jones
President 1915-1936



Mrs. J. Clyde Turner
President 1936-1942, 1945-1946



Mrs. Foy J. Farmer
President 1942-1945, 1946-1951



Mrs. C. Gordon Maddrey
President 1951-1956

“And Here Begins the Day”
1886 - 1916

From the very beginning of First Baptist Church the women of the church had always sought to attend to the needs of the less fortunate in the city of Raleigh. There were two organizations which we know about: the Female Mite Society and the Woman's Working Society, which preceded the original organization of Woman's Missionary Union.

In the period between 1827 and 1838, the Woman's Working Society was organized under the leadership of Mrs. Sarah Stone, the widow of David Stone, a banker, and the only son of Governor David Stone. It was at this time that women began to assume a more prominent place in the church. Mrs. Stone later became Mrs. Alfred Williams and continued in a leadership role.

In 1874, the church under the leadership of the Reverend Thomas H. Pritchard voted 27 to 4 to elect four deaconesses—contrary to the prevailing practice of the times. These four women were Miss Sallie Towles, Mrs. A.M. Lewis, Mrs. W.B. Swepson, and Miss Anna Justice. Mrs. Swepson was the best known of the four. She owned a large home on Hillsborough Street and was a liberal contributor to the church. At the time of her death, she bequeathed to the church land which she had been permitting the church to use. This land together with another portion of the old Swepson property, which was purchased later, is located where a portion of the present educational building now stands.

Because of their concern for others, we read in the early history of Wake County that on the day in which Sherman's Army was scheduled to march into Raleigh, the women of the First Baptist Church left their homes to attend the wounded soldiers who were housed in the church basement.

There were two very extraordinary young women whose lives have served as inspiration and whose record of service has been unsurpassed in dedication to the service of the Master. These two were Fannie Exile Scudder Heck and Sallie Bailey Jones.

The Woman's Missionary Union, Auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention, was once only a dream in the minds of two people. These were Dr. J. W. Carter, who was the pastor of the church in the late 1800's, and Miss Fannie Heck.

The circumstances of the birth of Miss Fannie Heck were produced by the necessities of the War Between the States. Colonel Jonathan M. Heck had settled his young wife at Buffalo Lithia Springs in Virginia in order that she might be near him as he served in the Army of Northern Virginia. Colonel Heck was assigned the task of purchasing materials for the manufacture of implements of war so greatly needed by the Confederate

forces. This involved traveling far and wide in search of such materials, and the constant danger of capture, and long absences from his wife.

It was in the summer of 1862 on June 16 that Fannie Exile Heck was born into the world—a world that she was to have such a great part in making better. The baby was two days old when her father first saw her. Mrs. Heck had named her Fannie for the dear sister back in her old home in West Virginia and Exile to perpetuate the memory of the circumstances of her birth.

She was later to add the name of Scudder to perpetuate the name of her grandmother, Jane Scudder Chadwick, who became a Baptist by conviction and was instrumental in the organization of the Baptist Church in Morgantown, West Virginia.

Into the home in which Miss Heck was born, Christ was the center of their lives. Mrs. Heck had accepted Christ and had joined the Baptist Church in Morgantown just two weeks before her marriage in 1859. Miss Heck said in later years "Though Colonel Heck was not a member of the church, he had great respect for my decision. We were both blessed with Christian parents and religious training. And I had the joy a few years later of seeing him unite with the church."

In September 1862, when little Fannie was only three months old, Colonel Heck removed his little family to Jones Spring in Warren County, North Carolina, a large plantation he had recently bought and one of the most popular health resorts in the South before the War Between the States. On this place was a sulphur spring near which were the main buildings and the usual cottages found at such a resort. Colonel Heck threw the place open for refugees who came from Virginia, North Carolina, and other places. Soon there was a choice company of ladies with their families living there. Among these were the wife and two daughters of General Robert E. Lee. During these days Annie Carter Lee was taken ill of scarlet fever and died. She was laid to rest in the burying ground on Colonel Heck's plantation. Because of the exigencies of war, General Lee was not able to attend the funeral. Colonel and Mrs. Heck did everything that they possibly could for the distressed mother, and later General Lee wrote Colonel Heck a letter expressing his deep gratitude for all that he and his wife had done for his loved ones. The grave is still there, a little off the highway between Raleigh and Warrenton.

Here at Jones Springs, Fannie began to grow into a child of unusual beauty. Her winsome loveliness was so talked about by the ladies at the Springs that newcomers would often call to the nurse to stop and let them see "the beautiful child about whom I have heard so much." These were anxious years of waiting for Mrs. Heck. While Colonel Heck did all in his

power to shield her, she knew to the fullest extent the hard lot of refugees in the midst of war.

In 1866, Colonel Heck began to cultivate the plantation and prepare to open the Springs for guests as was done before the war. There was no Baptist church in the community and as Mrs. Heck expressed it, "I have never known the privations of being away from a place of worship, and as it is with all of our blessings I learned to appreciate the privilege when deprived of it." Before long, Colonel Heck started a Sunday School and soon the little chapel in which they met was almost filled with grown people and little children from several miles away.

A Sunday School for Negroes was also started. All members of the Heck family old enough taught in this Sunday School.

Forty-two years later Miss Heck was to say in an address, "My first recollection of a Sunday School are a plantation Sunday School 'for black people taught by white men and women in the dark days after the war.'"

The Heck family came to Raleigh in 1868 when Fannie was six years old. Having decided to make Raleigh his permanent residence, Colonel Heck sold the beautiful home in Morgantown and built a handsome spacious residence on Blount street which in Miss Heck's own words "stands for Home in the memory of the children who grew to manhood and womanhood under its roof."

Every day in that home was begun with prayer. The Word of God would be read and then all would kneel about the head of the home as with thanksgiving and praise he sought the Heavenly Father's guidance and protection for the day and asked His blessing upon all people. Before each meal the blessing was asked and thanks were given, and it was the rule that at that board there would be no unkind criticism, no unpleasant conversation of any character. It was to be a place where the family gathered to discuss history, literature, art, music, the affairs of the day and of the kingdom. Colonel Heck was for years Superintendent of the Sunday School and believed in every phase of the work of the denomination. He was for a time president of the state Sunday School convention, a member of the Board of Trustees of Wake Forest College, trustee of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, and President of the Baptist State Convention. At one time he was vice-president of the Foreign Mission Board, and when he would attend the Southern Baptist Convention there would often be with him a tall, beautiful, brown eyed young woman who seemed to take the keenest interest in everything that was going on and whom, with great pride, he would introduce as "my daughter Fannie."

Although her home was a school preparative for all of her after life, she did receive the schooling which was usual for girls of her day. Her elementary training was received at Hobgood's Seminary, a school for the girls of Raleigh at that time. While she was still young, she attended Hollins Institute—now Hollins College, in Roanoke, Virginia. One of her sisters in a brief sketch of her life written years later, said of her: "She was not a prodigy, indeed, she developed rather slowly, but the fruition was doubtless fuller and richer on this account." Those who have made a study of her life and know anything of her work in after years recognize two things about her: she was timid, a characteristic that troubled her all of her life, and so retiring that her real talents were slow in revealing themselves.

While Miss Heck was still a young woman, a very beautiful influence came into her life, one that was to have far reaching results. Her grandmother, Callendine, daughter of Jane Scudder Chadwick, had come to live in the home. A very close and beautiful relationship developed between the grandmother and the young granddaughter. Fannie would spend hours in her grandmother's room reading the books she chose for her and discussing them with her. There was one dark volume over which they would pore by the hour and sometimes even into the night. It was the *Life of Ann Judson*, one of very few missionary books in existence at that time. Miss Heck was fascinated by the story of Ann Hesselstine Judson, who poured out her life in royal service for the Master in far away Burma. Who can estimate the influence of this book as an invigorating undercurrent of the hidden springs in the life of Fannie E.S. Heck?

Miss Heck loved flowers. As a child she played among them, as a young woman she cultivated them, and in the years that followed she gave them away that they might cheer and brighten the lives of others.

Miss Heck believed in the competency of the individual soul to approach its Maker, and throughout her life stood for full religious liberty in matters of faith and practice. Her favorite scripture passage and, one might say, the watchword of her life was the fourth chapter of Phillipians and the eighth verse: "Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things."

One of the first responsibilities which Miss Heck assumed was the teaching of a class of young men of which one of her younger brothers was a member. This class was followed by many others, all composed of young men in the formative period of life.

In addition to the class, Miss Heck taught in the Sunday School; she became the leader of the young women of her church in a missionary society. Elizabeth Briggs, later Mrs. T.M. Pittman, was a member of this society, and what she has to say about it will give some idea of what Miss Heck meant to the girls under her leadership:

"My first close association with Miss Heck was in a Young Ladies Missionary Society that she organized and led for some time. We met first in the Sunday School room, afterwards in the homes of the members. We had happy times together and she laughed with our foolishness as she directed our programs. We got very close to her during those years."

It has been said of her that she saw beauty everywhere. In the troubled lives of the underprivileged, especially those of children, she longed to bring the radiant light of God's love into their lives, where his regenerative power might make their lives over again. She found her opportunity for such missionary work on lower Fayetteville Street near the tracks of the Southern Railway. She would go into this neglected part of the city and hunt up the children who did not go to Sunday School. She would go from house to house encouraging the mothers to come and bring the children to the afternoon Sunday School. As is so often the case, the children did not have suitable clothing, so she and the workers assisting her interested their friends in giving them their children's outgrown clothing, which they would distribute according to need. The Sunday School began to grow, the fathers and mothers began to come, and souls were being saved and added to the church which was known as John Pullen's Church. Mrs. W.N. Jones, then Sallie Bailey, who was associated with Miss Heck in this work, had many interesting stories to tell of their experiences. Colonel Heck had two fine carriage horses, Prince and Lady Patchin. As a rule, Miss Heck drove Lady Patchin hitched to a buggy on her frequent trips to the neighborhood around the church. "But," says Mrs. Jones, "when the weather was freezing cold or there was snow on the ground, we walked. Lady Patchin must not be allowed to stand out in such weather." One year as Christmas approached, great preparations were being made for the Christmas entertainment. There was unusual enthusiasm, for the plan was to have the entertainment in the little church house of just one room that was nearing completion. The children would come to Miss Heck's home where she taught them songs and speeches, and where they practiced for the entertainment. But as the time came nearer and nearer, it looked as though the little church would not be finished in time. Finally, however, the building was completed, but it was the day before Christmas that the last nail was driven and there was no time to decorate. In order that the children should not be disap-

pointed, Miss Heck and those most interested stayed up all night and worked that nothing might be wanting to make the Christmas festivities in the new church a success.

From her beautiful home on Blount Street Miss Heck would go on week days to the little church "down by the tracks" and there the girls of the Sunday School and of the neighborhood gathered around her as she taught them to sew. Along with the teaching of sewing, she also taught them Bible and missionary stories, and sometimes they would have a time of prayer as she taught them how to pray.

Not only was Miss Heck mindful of the needs within her own church, but also she was conscious of the college girls who came to Raleigh to what was then the Baptist University for Women and is now Meredith College. In the early part of this century, the college wished to raise money for a new building on Blount Street near Miss Heck's home. She assumed the responsibility for raising a portion of the pledges and if a pledge was not paid Miss Heck sent a beautifully written letter of reminder to the person, even if the sum was only \$1.00.

All through her life, Miss Heck was exceedingly helpful in the home, and was never too busy to answer the call of any of her five sisters and four brothers. Whenever there was sickness in her family, Miss Fannie gave herself willingly and lovingly to the task of nursing. One family member wrote later, "I think the reason we always wanted Fannie near when we or our loved ones were sick was because she was so quiet and restful and so competent. Her very presence rested us."

Her experience and social contacts made Miss Heck realize, as she might not have otherwise, the wide field of usefulness before women in club life. With a genuine desire to see Raleigh women have a channel through which they could develop and use the fine powers she knew they possessed, she responded to the call of her own heart and together with four women of like mind organized the Woman's Club of Raleigh, became its first president and largely shaped its policies.

There can be no doubt that Miss Heck's experiences with the boys in her Sunday School classes through long years and with the boys in the little mission church brought home to her the need for a Young Men's Christian Association in Raleigh.

She made many talks urging this need, and when the time came she took an active part in the organization, with a longing in her heart, often expressed, for the time to come when Raleigh would have an active, vigorous Young Women's Christian Association, also.

Miss Heck was also a member of the North Carolina Conference for

Social Service, and long before there was a Juvenile Court, was asked "to accept a position on a Committee of Juvenile Courts" of which the Police Judge of Raleigh was chairman.

As Miss Heck sat at her father's table she heard Dr. Theodore Whitfield and others talking of the possibilities for the cause of Christ around the world if the woman power in the churches of the Southern Baptist Convention could be organized and set to work. Pondering all these things in her heart, she was ready when almost two years later Dr. Whitfield urged her to accept the office of president of a Woman's Central Committee, should such a committee be appointed by the State Mission Board.

In one of her addresses years later, Miss Heck said she was not sure but that the North Carolina Convention in 1885 had led to the belief that the time for action had arrived. "That convention," she said, "was one of deep feeling. Four young missionaries bade farewell to their brethern as they hastened to the Pacific shores which they should soon see sink into the blue distance, as they turned their faces toward China."

At the next meeting of the State Board in January 1886, a Woman's Central Committee of Missions composed of sixteen ladies was appointed, with Miss Heck as president and Sallie Bailey as secretary-treasurer. Sallie Bailey was then just eighteen and had been Miss Heck's enthusiastic co-worker in the mission church. Two totally inexperienced girls they were, the one to take the lead and the other to be her able assistant throughout Miss Heck's entire life.

There was no policy by which the new committee could be guided, no Year Books, no specially prepared programs for use by the societies of which there were about ten, some had been organized in the early part of the century. Believing, as Miss Heck once said, that missionary fires could not burn without fuel, one of the first projects of the new committee was the publication of a little paper, a single folder, about the dimensions of the W.M.U. magazine, *Royal Service*, and edited by Miss Heck. She named the paper *Missionary Talk*. Thousands of copies were issued each year until it was discontinued in 1895, when the North Carolina Union began editing a column in the *Biblical Recorder*.

Miss Heck was not only the President of the North Carolina Woman's Missionary Union, but when the Woman's Missionary Union, Auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention was organized, there were members of the North Carolina Central Committee present; among them was Miss Heck. In May of 1891, Miss Heck was one of four members of the Central Committee to attend the meeting of the Southern Union in Birmingham. Here she was elected first vice-president.

At the December meeting of the W.M.U. Executive Committee, Southern Baptist Convention in Baltimore, Miss M.E. McIntosh, who had been president of the Union since its organization, announced that she could not give her consent to have her name presented for re-election at the annual meeting in 1892 and mentioned Miss Heck as a possible successor. The minutes of the February meeting of the Executive Committee record that a letter had been received from Miss Heck allowing the use of her name as president. Thus Miss Heck was elected president of the Woman's Missionary Union on May 10, 1892, just one month and one week before she was thirty years of age.

The women of First Baptist Church, wishing to express their appreciation of this South-wide recognition of the executive ability and consecrated wisdom of their own leader, planned a reception in her honor and in honor of Mrs. J. A. Briggs, who was then North Carolina Corresponding Secretary, who had been elected vice-president of the General Union. Mrs. T. M. Pittman says that at that time she was of the errand running age and remembers that she was sent to ask Miss Heck whether she wanted the receiving ladies to wear hats! Even in the smallest details the ladies desired to please Miss Heck. In writing the next day to her father who was in Atlantic City, "Yesterday afternoon, while the thermometer stood well up in the nineties, from six to eight occurred the reception of the ladies of our church for Mrs. Briggs and myself. No trouble had been spared, and I had not been allowed to come near or send anything but flowers. We shook hands and spoke to the ladies as they came in. Then Mrs. Henry Briggs told the purpose of the reception. Mrs. James Briggs made a little talk in regard to the work of the Central Committee of North Carolina, and I a longer one about the general work of Woman's Missionary Union. As we took our seats we were presented with beautiful florist's bouquets. I cannot tell you of the lovely spirit that pervaded the whole and made it a most memorable occasion."

It was in October of 1892 that Miss Heck attended and presided for the first time over a meeting of the W.M.U. Executive Committee in Baltimore. She read from the forty-third chapter of Isaiah. She was also present at the meeting in November and at this time was asked to take charge of a new W.M.U. department in the Foreign Mission Journal. With some hesitation she consented and began a work that she kept up for eighteen years. The Sunbeam Bands at that time were under the supervision of the Foreign Mission Board, with Dr. George Braxton Taylor directing the work. With changing conditions, there began to appear programs for young ladies, so the name of the department was changed and known as the Young People's Department.

Miss Heck in her first annual address in 1893 urged the women "lay

broad and deep the fountain for a superstructure of magnificent gifts, of offered lives, such as yet undreamed of in the world of Missions. Begin a campaign of education not for one year or two. Give us the children of today for missions and we take the world for Christ tomorrow." In the programs Miss Heck prepared for young people she would usually suggest the use of some of the most beautiful old hymns, feeling that when other parts of the program had been forgotten, the old tunes would bring a flood of sacred memories.

Under the leadership of Miss Heck the ministry of sending boxes to missionaries on the Southwestern frontier began. In later years she spoke of it as believing that it had been "one of the most beautiful and fruitful phases of work the Woman's Missionary Union had ever undertaken."

Few copies of *Missionary Talk* are now in existence, but one bearing the date September 1893, is very interesting. Across the top under the name of the paper is the scripture, "The Mighty, even the Lord hath spoken, and called the earth from the rising of the sun to the going down thereof." "Missionary Day In The Sunday School" was the heading of the first article. Other headings were "Money and the Kingdom", "Facts About Italy" and so forth. There was a list of societies, a suggested study topic for the month with information in various articles that would help the societies in working out a program, the Objects of the Societies, the Fields of State, Home, and Foreign Mission Boards. There was also a Children's Corner with a suggested program, one item of which was the appointment of a committee to see the superintendent of the Sunday School requesting that the Sunday School Missionary Day be observed.

The Week of Prayer and Self-Denial was initiated in 1895. Miss Heck wrote a leaflet entitled *Her Father's House* which awakened greater interest in the packing of boxes for those home missionaries who were working in the frontier territories. It also brought some adverse criticism because it was thought to be overdrawn and to appeal too much to the emotions. It is recorded in the Executive Committee minutes of March 1895 that a missionary from Texas bore testimony that the leaflet was "sadly corroborative" of the story which Miss Heck had presented.

In 1895, women of the W.M.U. organizations had columns in their state papers and were eager to make their columns as effective as possible.

In 1900, Miss Heck was appointed from North Carolina a delegate to the Ecumenical Congress to meet in New York. There she said that her heart was continually stirred to convey to others and especially to those of her own state some of the hopes and purposes which had taken hold of her.

One of the great concerns of Miss Heck was the teaching of children and adults in the remote western counties of North Carolina. She made many journeys to this area and was continually urging a greater concern for those who lived in the lonely, remote areas of the state. As a result of her work, the State Convention began the Mountain Mission Schools which helped to bring a greater knowledge of Christ to the mountain people.

In 1908, Reverend A.E. Brown, Superintendent of Mountain School Work of the Home Mission Board announced at the annual meeting in Hot Springs, Arkansas, that the Annie W. Armstrong School, built by Woman's Missionary Union at Burnville would be dedicated in July.

Miss Heck conceived the idea of personal service. She believed that every Baptist woman should work among the sick, the poor and the ignorant who were around them. "Friends," she urged, "I believe most truly that there lies the most choice service we can render to our King who values far more the gift of all we are than all we have. The neighbor we term worthless is of immortal value in God's eyes. Here is hope, hope for larger service."

Miss Heck continued in office as President of both North Carolina Woman's Missionary Union and Woman's Missionary Union Southern Baptist Convention until in 1911, she was chosen to speak for the women of America to the women of the world at the Baptist World Alliance in Philadelphia in 1911. She was deeply impressed by the women she met from Europe and other lands who had come to the World Alliance Meeting. Happy indeed was Miss Heck that at this meeting a Woman's Committee of the World Alliance was formed and she rejoiced in the hope that through it Baptist women of the world would be able to unite in ever growing sympathy and helpfulness.

At the W.M.U. conference in Oklahoma City in May 1912, a committee composed of one member from each state was appointed by the president, which should present at the next annual meeting a Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Program as well as an enlistment and organization campaign to be carried on in each state. It was for this event that Miss Heck wrote the words for the Woman's Missionary Union which we associate with the missionary movement: "Come Women, Wide Proclaim." Also, Mrs. Charles A. Stakely was asked to give a history of the first twenty-five years. From this brief history, there developed a conviction that a full history should be written, to be used as a mission study book later in order that the entire membership might learn the story of the organization. In *The King's Service* was the title which Miss Heck proposed, but this was later changed to *In Royal Service*. When the Union

decided to change its publication *Our Mission Fields* from a quarterly to a monthly publication, the name was changed so that the title which she chose is perpetuated in the magazine.

The year of celebration was for Miss Heck the culmination of all the years of her life which she had poured into the work of missions. She called it the Jubilate year. She wrote, "So shape each celebration, large or small, that it should dignify the work of the society; increase the spiritual life of the organizations; draw in the children; touch the unenlisted women; leave behind some new or strengthened form of personal service; make every thought look to the future, so that the Jubilate shall leave behind a larger-minded, more studious, more attractive, more liberal group of women and children."

The Woman's Missionary Training School on Lexington Road in Louisville, Kentucky was one of the accomplishments of the years of Miss Heck's of 1912, a building having been secured, the Good Will Center opened for work. Because of the work of this Center, other centers were opened in many cities of the Convention. These Centers have become an approved method of doing mission work on the foreign mission fields.

"*A Prophecy of Growth*" was to be her last address to the annual session of Woman's Missionary Union. Miss Heck expressed her hopes for the future in nine distinct predictions which take in practically every phase of Union life and work.

In the summer of 1914 as she was preparing to leave the house for Sunday School, she was stricken with pain. In her own words, "As lightning falls in summer from the Sky." It was on July twenty-second, 1914, that she entered the Hygeia Hospital in Richmond, Virginia, where she remained for almost a year.

With characteristic cheerfulness, she called her room the "Blue Sky" room and the messages she wrote from the "Blue Sky" room were those of hope and joy. She wrote, "I am deeply grateful that I have had a part in the work of God's Kingdom. I look down the long vista of the years, I see glorious things for the Union. The work we have begun will grow with ever increasing rapidity. With growing wealth and still more consecration, the women's gifts will grow. The communities around each society, through their work for them, shall have cause to call them blessed."

She slipped quietly away as the summer sky was aglow with the glory of sunset on August twenty-fifth, 1915.

There was another who so ably supported Miss Heck and was herself a foundation stone of the kingdom not made with hands.

During the years from 1886 to 1915, there are no yearly records still in existence; however, we know that the work of Woman's Missionary Union was carried forward through the efforts of its first ten presidents. So effective was their work that by the year of 1915 there were twelve groups of women which comprised the Woman's Missionary Society, the total number of members was 225.

Mrs. Thomas H. Briggs served longer than any other president. She became president in 1890 and served until 1899. The society had formed an auxiliary of young women and other organizations for young people, the Girls Auxiliary and the Sunbeams. Through these years the young people's organizations were very carefully nurtured.

There were three special offerings during the year:

- One for Home Missions in April at the close of the Week of Prayer.
- One for State Missions, in September, on State Mission Day, and
- One for Foreign Missions (China) on Christmas Day.

Although the offering was taken for China on Christmas Day, the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions was January fourth through January ninth.

Mrs. W.C. Riddick was president from 1915-1921, and it may have been under her leadership that a yearbook was first compiled for the use of each member.

Report of the Year's Work Of The Woman's Missionary Society Of The First Baptist Church

December 1916

We have come to the end of another year, and we are grateful to God for the part He has given us in this work of bringing His Kingdom on earth.

Our Program Committee prepared for us a beautiful and complete Year Book. It has been most helpful in our work. Our subject for study has been Womanhood, in Christian and Non-Christian Ideals.

We began the year's work with the Week of Prayer for World-Wide Missions. The attendance was good throughout the week, and interest and earnestness was manifested. To spend the first week of the year in prayer means much to us in spiritual growth.

Following the Week of Prayer was a two weeks' series of meetings held in our church by Dr. Porter of Texas. There was a call meeting of our society at Dr. Porter's request, and the women responded earnestly to his

appeal that they take an active part in interesting the unconverted in their soul's salvation. We trust some good was accomplished.

Our Foreign Mission contribution for Mrs. Willingham's salary was made in this, the first quarter of the year. It amounted to \$484.93, and adding to that our dues, \$192.49, it was \$677.42. Then our Christmas offering of \$115.80 made our Foreign Mission contribution \$793.22. That was a splendid beginning for the year's work.

In March, 21st to 24th, our Annual Woman's Missionary Union Meeting was held at Winston-Salem. Our delegates to that were Mrs. C.F. Meserve, Mrs. John Duckett and Mrs. W.C. Riddick. We were also represented there on the State Executive Committee by Mrs. W.N. Jones, Miss Elizabeth Briggs, Mrs. H.C. Moore, Mrs. W.F. Marshall and Mrs. C.E. Brewer. It was a proud meeting for this society. Our Central Association, for the first time in its existence, led all the Associations, contributing \$3,461.74, and our Society led the Missionary Societies of the State with \$2,341.53. These figures include Mrs. Heck's great gift of \$500.00 to the Louisville Training School, but, taking that away, we still led.

Since the organization of the Woman's Missionary Union, this Society has had the proud distinction of furnishing the Union its president. You do not need to be told how grandly Miss Heck filled that place. We felt it a great honor to have them choose their second president from among us, Mrs. W.N. Jones. We knew her to be a woman of deep spirituality, and intellectually to be one of the State's ablest women, but it was gratifying to have the Woman's Missionary Union recognize her fitness and her ability, and to choose her their leader without a dissenting vote. So we came home to you very proudly bearing our honors but feeling the deepest responsibility, for to whom much is given much is also required.

With April began our Home Mission quarter. Our special collection for Home Missions was \$246.90—our dues amounting to \$96.22—increasing it to \$342.92. Instead of observing a Week for Prayer for Home Missions in April as heretofore, and holding a prayer meeting of one hour each afternoon for a week, we set apart Monday, April 3rd, for this purpose, and held an all-day service, serving our lunch at the church. A splendid program was prepared, and interesting papers read and talks made on all the different objects of our Home Mission Board. The attendance was exceedingly good, and it was a day of inspiration and closer fellowship with us all.

The Baptist Woman's Council was organised in May. This consists of the officers of the Woman's Missionary Societies and of the Y.W.A.'s of all the Raleigh Baptist Churches, and our State Executive Committee of

the W.M.U. The object of this Council is to bring together the Baptist women of the several churches of Raleigh into closer union with one another, and thus promote the work. It was decided to hold three union meetings a year. The first being the Week of Prayer for World-Wide Missions, held in January, and which the Tabernacle and First Church have observed together for several years. The second union meeting will be on Home Mission day, and the societies of the Raleigh Baptist churches will meet with us. The third meeting will be on State Mission day, and the Tabernacle Church Society will be hostess. We had as our guest the Tabernacle Society at our May meeting, and the organization of this Council was discussed and completed. On our invitation Mrs. D.J. Thurston of Clayton gave us a most interesting talk on "Personal Service" at that meeting.

In May the Southern Baptist Convention met at Asheville, and we were represented by Mrs. W.N. Jones, Miss Elizabeth Briggs, Mrs. Farmer, Mrs. H.C. Moore and Mrs. R.N. Simms. Mrs. W.C. James, of Virginia, was elected President of the Woman's Missionary Union of the South.

In the months of July and August we had brought to our attention the work and the needs of the Louisville Training School, and our special collection was taken, amounting to \$113.50.

Our delegates to the Central Association, which met at Wake Forest September 2-3, were Mrs. J.J. Towler, Mrs. Henry Bunch and Mrs. M.P. Uzzle. Through the effort of Mrs. Towler arrangements were made for the conveyance in automobiles of all who could attend, and we had between twenty-five and thirty representatives there each day. The growing interest and progress shown in the Association is most gratifying.

In August we had the report of the year's work done by the Johnson Memorial School, conducted by Mrs. T.H. Briggs, Mrs. W.J. Peele, and their five faithful assistants, Mrs. N.A. Dunn, Mrs. M.P. Uzzle, Miss Gladys Dewar, Miss Helen Briggs, and Miss Neta Denmark. There are sixty-two pupils enrolled, and the smallest attendance at any meeting was twenty-five. Of all the personal service our Society does, this seems to me the greatest labor of love—meeting week after week throughout the year with these little children, teaching them to sew, and what is vastly more important, teaching them the truths of life.

Our September meeting, which was our State Mission Day, was held in union with the Tabernacle Church, we being their guest. A splendid program was prepared — Mrs. T.H. Briggs, Mrs. W.N. Jones and Mrs. W.N. Johnson being the speakers for the afternoon. We feel that these union meetings will mean much to our Baptist women. Our special

offering to State Missions was \$226.90, and our dues \$96.22, making our State Mission offering for the year \$323.12, \$52.99 less than last year. In all of our other offerings we exceeded the previous year. We are sorry to record this backward step.

Several of our groups held rummage sales during the year, donating the money made, \$204.45, to be spent in completing the Johnson Memorial Church. Adding this to our State Mission offering, we have \$527.57, and then the \$60.00 box we sent the Red Springs Church makes \$587.57. But these are outside our regular channels of work.

We have held our twelve monthly meetings, and with one exception each of the groups have held their twelve meetings.

We have lost by removal from town eight members, and by death two. It saddens us to record that fifteen have felt no interest in the work and have dropped out, making a total loss of twenty-five. We have gained thirty-five new members, making a net gain of ten. Our attendance has not improved, and we are averaging close around one hundred at each meeting.

But this has been a great year's work. The interest and the knowledge of the work has increased, and the result must ever be better service. In personal service the effort to relieve suffering has equaled the knowledge of the need. The poor have been cared for, the sick visited and cheered, the orphans fed and clothed. One group has supplied the children's ward at Rex Hospital with clothes for the sick babies; another group finding a home cold and bare and the family sick has given wood, a stove and a carpet, clean bed linen and food. Clothes have been sent to the mountain schools, Christmas cheer carried to the cheerless. Strangers have been visited and made welcome, one group entertaining the Baptist public school teachers who are strangers among us. We have recorded this year 2,485 visits made in the interest of the work to the sick and to strangers. This one fact counts largely in the success of the work. (Seven groups reported).

Financially we have succeeded beyond anything we dared hope for. Our Treasurer reports that the grand total given through this Society this year is \$3,467.25, nearly twice as much as we gave last year. This seems too good to be true. And yet we have but touched the edges of what we may do. Less than half of us have paid in full this year—that is, paid every one of our monthly dues and to each of the special offerings, Foreign, Home and State Missions, and the Louisville Training School. It is not the large gifts the Society is asking for, no one is expected to give except as God has prospered them, and we know that the smallest gift often counts most in God's sight, but it is the *regular giving* we are striving towards, and

the realization of the privilege of putting out *time*, our *talent*, and our *means* in this - the world's greatest work.

I cannot bring this report to a close without recording the sad loss that came to us Tuesday, November 10th, when our beloved and loving friend and ex-president, Mrs. Cary J. Hunter, was called home to be with God. She did so much for us. During her three year's presidency she doubled her membership, and she awakened an interest in the work such as this Society had never known. By her own devotion to duty and her sweet efforts in our behalf, she led us into the work. May the seed she planted in our hearts bear fruit a hundred fold.

Mrs. W.C. Riddick
President

***“Mindful of the millions who
are sitting in darkness”
1917 - 1942***

In 1917, a Financial Statement was included in the yearbook for the first time. It reveals the level of giving and also the projects of the society at that time.

Foreign Missions	\$ 192.49
Foreign Missions (Special)	484.93
Christmas Offering	<u>115.80</u>
Total Foreign Missions	\$ 803.22
Home Missions	\$ 92
Self-Denial Offering	<u>246.70</u>
Total Home Missions	\$ 342.92
State Missions	\$ 96.22
Special Offering	<u>246.70</u>
Total State Missions	\$ 323.12
Judson Centennial (Foreign)	\$ 488.54
Building and Loan (Home)	113.44
Louisville Training School	113.50
Central Committee Expense, etc.	46.00
Relief Fund	192.49
Foreign Mission Board Debt	147.00
Building Fund (Johnson Memorial Church)	<u>204.45</u>
Grand Total, 1916	\$2,774.69
Grand Total, 1915	\$1,898.25
Increase for the Year	\$ 876.44

At the bottom of the financial statement, there are these words: Our Aim for 1917 - A Ten Percent Increase.

The Standard of Excellence was to be read at each meeting and includes these words: "Every member shall be present at the regular meeting of the Society unless providentially detained." At this time the Foreign Missionary who was supported by the Society was Mrs. Calder Willingham in Kokura, Japan. During the first quarter of the year \$800.00 was asked for in contributions in order that her salary might be met. The Week of Prayer for World-Wide Missions was observed January 1st to the 7th and was observed jointly by all Baptist churches of the city.

In this year the first mention is made of the gifts of the Auxiliary Societies. The Eliza Yates Y.W.A. contributed \$212.93, the Girls Auxiliary \$54.08, and the Sunbeams \$37.33 to the missions offerings. The topic for March third, 1917 is a timely one; "Our Y.W.C.A. and Young People's Work, and their part in the Red Cross Service." April seventh of that year was observed as a day of prayer for Home Missions. The

Society of Tabernacle Church and other Baptist Churches met with the Society of First Baptist Church.

The financial plan of the Society up until the year 1920 had been one-third to the poor, one-third to Foreign Missions to be equally divided between Home and State Missions. In the year of 1921, the designations were changed, with the monthly contributions divided as follows:

- Two-fifths to Foreign Missions
- One-fifth to Home Missions
- One-fifth to State Missions
- One-fifth to Relief Fund and Expense Fund

Mrs. Charles E. Brewer became President in 1929. For the first time, the Young People's Organizations are listed in the Yearbook. There were 69 Sunbeams, 17 participants in the Girls' Auxiliary, and 23 members of the Eliza Yates Y.W.A. The program topics for May, June and July were The Life of Confucius, Taoism, and The Life of Buddha, The Teachings of Buddha and The Status of Women in Japan. For the first time a personal Service Committee is listed, with Miss Julia Coke as the Chairman. The Personal Service Report lists 5,954 visits, 825 garments distributed, 1,080 baskets and trays, 1,740 Testaments and Gospels given away, and bouquets of flowers, 501. It was during this year that the Society made a five-year pledge of \$40,000.00 toward the 75-million Campaign of Southern Baptists. The programs for 1924 reflect a growing work in the Medical Missions. Christianity and the Healing of Nations, Medical Missions and Evangelism, and Hospital Work of Southern Baptists are three of the topics for study. An interesting footnote from this year states that "Inasmuch as the Woman's Missionary Union, after programs from all the Southern States were submitted, chose the year's subject Our Work and The Kingdom from the North Carolina contestant, Miss Elizabeth Briggs, one of our own members, it seemed fitting to the local committee to use this program in our monthly meetings." On Home Mission Day, all of the Baptist Missionary Societies met at the Pullen Memorial Church. The Personal Service Committee continued to be very active with more than 11,000 contacts made. In addition to Miss Julia Coke who continued as Chairman, the members were Mrs. N.A. Dunn, Miss Gladys Dewar, Mrs. W.B. Drake, Mrs. McIver Allen, and Mrs. Clarence Poe.

The pledges made to the 75-Million Campaign were uppermost in the minds of the ladies in the year 1924 as is reflected in the Subject for the year: Pledges and the World for Christ. It is interesting to note some of those young ladies who were Y.W.A.'s—Misses Ellen Brewer, Mabel

Haynes, Mary Lynch Johnson, and Myrtle Underwood. Mrs. Ernest L. Layfield was Leader of the Girls Auxiliary.

A final report which Mrs. Charles E. Brewer made to the society upon the completion of her four years as president is as follows: "It is with gratitude to God for His blessings that we turn the pages of the record of the past year and see what this society has accomplished in the service of the Master. Our Associational Meeting was held at Wakefield. Mrs. J.S. Mitchiner, our superintendent, had planned a splendid program, and the meeting was largely attended. Our transportation committee, Miss Ellen Durham and Mrs. Hubert Tomlinson, arranged for the attendance of thirty-nine of our members. Mrs. George Dowell and Mrs. T.B. Mosely were our delegates. It was decided at the November meeting that our society cooperate with seven churches of the city to serve lunches to the High School boys of the Y.M.C.A. This work is purely voluntary on the part of the women. The boys expressed much appreciation, and we believe great good will be accomplished in this way. We began the new year by observing the Week of Prayer for World-Wide Missions at the Tabernacle Church. They were blessed meetings of thanksgiving, petitions, spiritual uplift and fellowship. Eight mission study classes were held during the year and forty-four members of these classes have received certificates and seals in recognition of their work. We have fifty tithers in our society and 162 have paid their campaign pledge to date. There have been 36 additions and 20 members lost; three died, six moved away and three joined other churches.

"While we rejoice that we have reached our campaign pledge of \$40,000.00, it is only because of the \$2,000.00 memorial gift of last year.

"A minor note has crept into our song of praise and thanksgiving when we realize we have failed to attain all that we hoped to accomplish. We lacked just one point of reaching our standard of excellence. Let us hope that this will spur us on to a more determined effort in carrying out the King's business."

Mrs. W.D. Briggs succeeded Mrs. Brewer as President in 1925. Several of the program topics of the year were: A Century of Baptist Progress in Europe, The Home Board's Part In The Religious Growth of our Southern Cities, and Enlistment of Unused Power In Our Churches. During this year Misses Margaret Hunter and Susan Dewar were leaders of the Sunbeam Band. Among members of that band were Traney Yates Coburn, George Emory Dowell, Julian Hardesty and Edgar Wyatt.

For the very first time the Deaconesses of the church were listed in the 1927 yearbook. They were:

Mrs. C.E. Brewer
Mrs. John D. Briggs
Mrs. T.H. Briggs
Mrs. Henry Bunch
Mrs. Thomas Burns
Mrs. R.T. Coburn

Miss Emma Dowell
Mrs. George J. Dowell, Jr.
Mrs. W.N. Jones
Mrs. J.H. King
Mrs. C.W. Nercomb

Missions gifts from all W.M.U. organizations totalled \$11,213.80.

On June 15, 1927, Dr. J. Clyde Turner in an address before the Southern Baptist Convention said these words:

The Woman's Missionary Union of the Southern Baptist Convention began its work thirty-nine years ago. One of the brightest pages of Southern Baptist history has been written by this organization. It has ever been true to the purpose that called it into existence. The women have not tried to push themselves forward, but they have realized that they had a place in the work of the kingdom, and they have tried to fill that place. As to how well they have succeeded, the record of the past thirty-nine years bears eloquent testimony.

I. Some of the things the W.M.U. has done.

Our Lord said, "By their fruits ye shall know them." The W.M.U. is willing to be known by its fruits. For these thirty-nine years it has been like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth its fruit in its season. Each year the fruit has become larger and more plentiful. Let us take a look at some of the clusters.

1. It has fostered missionary information in the churches. No church can be very much interested in something about which it does not know. There can be no real inspiration until first there is information. And one reason why more churches and more individuals in the churches, have not been enlisted in our great missionary work is because they have not known much about that work. The W.M.U. has done far more than any other agency to stimulate and foster mission study in the churches. Take the record of the past year. During these twelve months there have been more than 21,000 mission study classes conducted and more than 5,000 of these among the young people. In addition to this, there has been the study of the mission fields and work in the regular meetings of the organizations. And, best of all, there has been the systematic study of God's Word in the homes. Give the W.M.U. an entrance into the more than 11,000 Baptist churches of the South which have no W.M.U. organization, and it will not be long before these churches are enlisted in the work of the kingdom: for wherever the W.M.U. goes, it carries the torch of information, and where there is information there is usually enlistment.

2. It has instilled the missionary spirit into the young people of the churches. It has taken the boys and girls of tender age and brought them together in Sunbeam Bands, and given to their young minds and hearts a vision of Christ and His work. It has taken them by the hand and led them on through the teen ages in their Royal Ambassador and Girls' Auxiliary organizations, with ever-widening vision of the kingdom of God. It has followed the young women to college, both denominational and state, and there, through the Y. W. A. organizations, it has held the light of the cross before these young women as they have been thrown, in many instances, into an atmosphere of doubt and unbelief. And here in this beautiful city the W. M. U. has built "The House Beautiful" where the young women whose lives have been touched by Christ may come and prepare themselves for His service at home and abroad. We are already gathering the fruit from this branch of service, this training of the young people. The large number of young men and women who have offered themselves for definite service at home and abroad is largely the result of the training of the W. M. U. organizations, of the missionary spirit that was instilled into their minds and hearts in the days of their youth.

3. It has exemplified the spirit of service in the churches. What a record of personal service has been written the past year. Visualize, if you can, what it means to have more than 50,000 workers scattered over the South in Good Will Centers, in Mission Sunday Schools, in Cottage Prayer Meetings, and in school work; ministering to the sick and visiting those who are in prison; distributing Bibles and religious literature; talking to men and women about their souls. Besides the comfort and cheer and help they have brought to the many thousands, they have witnessed the conversion of more than 11,000 precious souls. As the Lord looks down from the glory world, I hear Him say to these faithful workers, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these, ye have done it unto me."

Christ has no hands but our hands

To do His work today:

He has no feet but our feet,

To lead men in His way:

He has no tongues but our tongues

To tell men how He died:

He has no help but our help,

To bring them to His side.

What if our hands are busy

With other work than His?

What if our feet are walking

Where sin's allurements is?

What if our tongues are speaking
Of things His lips would spurn?
How can we hope to help Him,
And hasten His return?

That is the spirit which these workers have manifested.

4. It has kindled and fed the fires of prayer for missions in the churches. In the secret closet, around the family altar, in the regular meetings of the organizations, and during the special seasons of prayer, the W.M.U. has carried the work of the kingdom to the throne of grace. Think of what it means to have more than 4,000 organizations among the young people, and more than 5,000 among the Women's Missionary Societies, calling upon God throughout the year in behalf of a world for which Christ died.

A few days ago one of our great missionary heroes fell asleep down in Brazel, Solomon Ginsburg. How many wonderful stories of deliverance he had to tell during his many years of service. But none more thrilling to me than his deliverance from a brutal bandit who had been hired to take his life, and the conversion of that bandit to Christ. And he found out later than on the very day in which he was having that experience a young women's missionary society in Americus, Georgia, had been praying especially for him, that God would protect him and use him in His service.

Oh, that the churches of our Southland would catch a fresh vision of the place and power of prayer in Christ's missionary program. A Christian girl, who was very resourceful in her methods for the advancement of the missionary cause in her church, had this remark put to her one day by a friend, "Bessie, I believe that if you were put on an island, alone, shut in a solitary cell, debarred from communication from a solitary person, you would contrive to do something for missions." "Certainly," replied the girl, "I would do there the greatest thing possible for missions, I would pray."

The women of the Southland have been praying. That is one of the secrets of their success.

5. It has had a large part in the offering of the churches. Last year the W.M.U. organizations laid nearly three million dollars on the altar of God for missionary and benevolent work, and most of this came through the regular channels of the Cooperative Program. And it has been given regularly and joyfully. Much of it has come through hard work and sacrifice. Too often is it the case that the woman in the home, who does as much, or more work than any member of the family, is not allowed to

share in the income of the family. Sometime ago I saw this statement from a woman in a paper, "In the thirty years of my married life I have served 235,424 meals, made 33,190 loaves of bread, baked 5,930 cakes and 7,960 pies. I have canned 1,550 quarts of fruit, raised 7,660 chickens, churned 5,540 pounds of butter, put in 36,461 hours sweeping, washing and scrubbing. I estimate the worth of my labor conservatively at \$115,485, none of which I have ever collected. But I still love my husband and children, and wouldn't mind starting all over for them again."

This ought not to be. The women have a right to share the income of the family. David said those who stayed by the stuff should share equally with those who went to battle. The woman who stays in the home ought to share with the husband who gets the income. I dare to make this statement, there would be no burdensome debts on our great mission boards today if the women of the South had had charge of the purse strings. The report tells us there are more than 57,000 tithers in the W.M.U. organizations, and there would be many other thousands if the women had their way. I know women today who want to tithe the family income and their stingy husbands won't let them. And yet the women of the South by sacrifices in many instances, have laid nearly three million dollars on the altar. These are some of the things W.M.U. has accomplished. This is some of the fruit from that flourishing tree.

II. The spirit in which this work has been done.

Our Lord looks not only at the work accomplished but also at the spirit in which it has been carried on. If the pure food law were applicable to Christian work, and the spirit and motives were labeled on it, much of it would be found adulterated. What has been the spirit entering into the W.M.U. work?

1. Becoming modesty and humility. They have not pushed themselves forward, they have pushed the work of the Lord forward. They have sought for nothing for themselves save a place in which to serve, and a measure of sympathy and cooperation. They have not always received this, but they have gone on in their own quiet way and served their Lord.

2. Unbroken unity. It has been left to the men to come together and debate their creeds and disagree over methods while the work of the Lord has suffered, but the W.M.U. has come through years with unbroken unity. With the vision of a lost world ever before them, they have had too much to do to stop and wrangle. In every call that has come they have responded with united front. And there isn't anything this Convention needs more than it needs to catch that spirit. In this hour of all hours we need to face our God-given task with united ranks.

3. Untiring zeal. The work of the W.M.U. has not been of the spasmodic kind. It has been carried on with a steady, untiring zeal that has lasted throughout the year. Like the fire on the altar of old which was kept burning all the time, so the W.M.U. has kept the fires of enthusiasm burning throughout the days and weeks of the year. Long before the churches were talking systematic giving, the women were practicing it. There come times when special efforts must be made, but the work of the kingdom cannot be carried on successfully by occasional seasons of enthusiasm and effort. The spirit that wins is that spirit of untiring zeal that lasts 365 days in the year.

4. Unfaltering faith. This has been one of the outstanding characteristics of the W.M.U., its unfaltering faith. In the darkest hours it has looked through the shadows to the living Lord and pressed on. Early in the Great War three British cruisers were torpedoed and sunk in the North Sea. The vessels carried more than 2,000 men. Many of them were from Portsmouth, England. On receiving tidings of the disaster the mayor of Portsmouth sent a crier through the streets announcing the names of the survivors would be posted on a great bulletin in front of the City Hall, just as soon as they were sent in. The women of the city, mothers, wives, daughters, sisters and sweethearts, gathered immediately in front of the City Hall. They stood there all that night and the next day, for there was delay in sending the names. On the evening of the second day they began to come in. When eighteen had been posted on the bulletin board, a double line was drawn showing that these were all that were left of the Portsmouth men. The mayor immediately took steps to quell any disturbance. But this was not necessary. This great company of women stood there in silence for a moment, and then began to sing with increasing volume, "Rule, Britannia, Britannia rules the waves." And then they went quietly to their homes, some of them leading their children and some of them carrying babes on their breasts.

And this has been the spirit of the women in the battle of the kingdom. In the darkest hours, they have kept an unfaltering faith in the reigning Christ and have pushed on in His name.

5. Whole-hearted devotion. The watchword has ever been, "Ye serve the Lord Christ." I believe the secret of the successful work of the W.M.U. is to be found just here in their whole-hearted devotion to Jesus.

One of the most thrilling stories of history is that of Florence Nightingale, who gave herself and her all to the service of suffering humanity. Near the close of her life she said to a company of friends, "If I could tell you all, you would see that God has done all and I have done nothing. I have worked hard, very hard, that is all, and I have never refused God

anything." Those last words gave the secret, she never refused God anything. When God wanted her life, she gave Him that: and when God wanted her wealth, she gave Him that. She never refused God anything.

And that has been the spirit of the women of the Southland. They have never refused God anything. When God has wanted their time, they have given that: when God has wanted their money, they have given that: and when God has wanted their sons and daughters, they have laid them on the altar. May that be the spirit of this Southern Baptist Convention. In this hour when God is calling, may we not refuse God anything.

"Forty Years, Jehovah, thy God hath been with thee" was the theme of the ruby anniversary year of 1928. Far Above Rubies was the topic for the Week of Prayer for Home Missions. Among active members of the Eliza Yates Y.W.A. were Miss Madge Alderman, Miss Ora Alford, and Miss Ellen Brewer. Mrs. George Dowell, Jr., was the leader of the Junior Girls Auxiliary. The name of Dr. Delia Dixon-Carroll appears in the records of this time. She was an outstanding woman of her time as the first woman physician in the city of Raleigh. Although she was never President of the Woman's Missionary Society, she was a faithful member throughout her lifetime.

Mrs. J.M. Johnson succeeded Mrs. Briggs as President in 1931. The regular general meetings were held at this time on the first Monday of each month at four o'clock except during the months of December, January, and February, when they were held at 3:30 o'clock. The W.M.U. offerings to the Cooperative Program were given separately and during this year amounted to \$846.25. For the first time a Heck Memorial Offering was taken which amounted to \$18.35. Total gifts to all missionary causes amounted to \$8,772.30. The Great Depression was beginning to be reflected in the receipts for this year, the offerings were down by more than 25% from the previous year.

The Woman's Missionary Union in the year 1932 consisted of nine groups with 313 members, 13 members of the Eliza Yates Y.W.A., 28 members of the Girls Auxiliary, and 32 members of the Sunbeam Band. A Relief Fund is mentioned for the first time, no doubt in order to aid the poor of the community in those days when the nation was in the depths of the depression. The names of Mrs. Earl Hostetler and Mrs. W.Z. Betts appear for the first time as group leaders. Listed among those in the Sunbeam Band for this year are Catherine Cunningham, James Hamrick, Marvin Koonce, and Billie Fleming. It was during this year that the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions began to be observed in December rather than in January. The theme for the Week was "The Gifts Christ Brought" and it was observed December 5-9.

Mrs. R.T. Coburn, President of the Union from 1933-1935 made some changes in the organizational structure, the most notable was the addition of assistant leaders for each group. Among the new assistant leaders were Mrs. B.Y. Tyner, Mrs. M.A. Huggins, Mrs. Claude F. Gaddy, and Mrs. W.L. Wyatt. Mrs. W.H. Weatherspoon became Assistant Leader to Mrs. Raymond C. Maxwell, Leader of the Sunbeam Band. The Royal Ambassadors were organized during this year and the first members were:

Charles Allen	William Gilbert
DeVan Barbour	Edward Harper
Lexie Bonner	Billy Hill
William Brantley	Blanchard Jones
Jack Coble	Hunter Morgan
William Fleming	E. Lloyd Tilly
Robert Gilbert	William Woltz

Mrs. C.H. Fleming was the first leader. Thus began thirty years during which the Ambassadors were under the sponsorship of Woman's Missionary Union.

Mrs. W.L. Wyatt chose as her Theme for the Year of 1934 "The Banner of the Cross in the Land of Our Lord." The program topic for the month of April was "The Banner of the Cross in Medieval and Modern Europe" and in August, "Lifting the Banner in the Land of the Rising Sun." By this year there were two Y.W.A. having been organized under the leadership of Mrs. W.A. Smith. Miss Elizabeth Cauthen was a member of this group as well as Miss Jessie Ruth Baucom. The Junior Girls Auxiliary presented a portion of the December 2 program for Foreign Missions. Some of the girls who participated were Dorothy Perry, Catherine Wyatt, Geraldine Coburn, and Pauline Hobbs.

The Missions Offerings, having reached a low point of just over \$5,000.00 in 1935, began to climb upward again in 1936. The total gifts for this year were \$7,680.14. The Society continued the practice of taking a Heck Memorial Offering to be used for a special missions project. This year's offering totaled \$135.85.

In the year 1937, the Yearbook contains the first record of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Woman's Missionary Society. The Constitutional Committee consisted of Mrs. W.N. Jones, Mrs. Elizabeth Briggs Pittman, and Mrs. J.H. King. Mrs. B.Y. Tyner became the President during this year, with Mrs. J.B. Gordon as First Vice President and Mrs. Kenneth R. Smith as Second Vice President. Miss Margaret Johnson was Leader of the Junior Girls Auxiliary, and Mrs. W.B. Gilbert was the Junior Royal Ambassadors Leader. The Sunbeam Band under the leader-

ship of Mrs. W.H. Weatherspoon grew to 47 members.

Among the topics to be studied in 1938 were The Near East, Mexico and Cuba and LaPlate Countries and Chile. It was in this year that the groups began to be called circles. Mrs. Wade Gallant, Mrs. George W. Bradshaw, Mrs. Ernest L. Layfield, and Mrs. Henry L. Barrett were some of the Circle Leaders. The gifts to all missions causes rose to approximately \$8,900.00 as the nation began to become more prosperous.

Mrs. Ernest L. Layfield assumed the Presidency in 1939. Dr. S.L. Stealey was Pastor of the Church at this time, and Mrs. Stealy opened the parsonage to one circle each month and acted as hostess. This was her way of getting to know all of the ladies of the church in a more personal way. In 1940, many of those who were to be future leaders became circle leaders. Three were Mrs. L.R. Harrill, Mrs. Kenneth R. Smith, and Mrs. Carl Goerch. The ladies exceeded other years by giving \$10,044.35, the highest missions gifts in more than ten years. Miss Elizabeth Hostetler was one of the Counselors for the Junior Girls Auxiliary. There were 30 G.A.'S who were active; among them were Dickie Dunn, Jean Gaddy, Mary Frances Gilbert, and Dorothy Singleton. Miss Nell Barker was counselor for the Blanche Barrus Y.W.A.

***“The Son of Righteousness
has risen with healing
in his wings”
1943 - 1986***

It was during the year of 1943 that Sallie Bailey Jones died. In the dedication of the 1944 Yearbook, Dr. Hight C. Moore said of her, "She was a Hannah to her children, a Dorcas to the poor, a Phebe in her church, and a Lydia to missionaries, a Priscilla to seekers after truth, a Deborah in the army of Immanuel, a Mary at the feet of her Lord." During the 1940's, Dr. and Mrs. H. Hudson McMillan became the foreign missionaries who were supported by the church. At this time they were missionaries in Soochow, China. The financial report for this year includes for the first time an account of money spent for local missions:

Milk Fund	\$ 70.99
Carey Street Mission	\$107.00
Christmas Presents for Prisoners	\$ 10.00
Meredith Scholarship	<u>\$161.00</u>
Total paid for Local Missions	\$348.99

Also, there was a division as to what was paid out for Society Expenses and for Missions. The total from all Societies for Missions was \$12,298.58. This amount reflects the leadership which Mrs. J.R. Weatherspoon provided. During the two years of her Presidency missions gifts increased by more than 20%.

The General program topic for 1944 was "Our Unchanged Task in a Changing World." Mrs. L.L. Carpenter, later to be the Raleigh Baptist Association President, became a Circle Leader. Other Leaders of this year were Miss Ruth Wilson, Mrs. E.H. Simpson, and Mrs. Henry A. Helms. Mrs. Kenneth R. Smith was President from 1943-1945, and Mrs. Carl Goerch was Recording Secretary. During these years there was continued growth of the young people's organizations, the Constitution was revised and gifts to missions were increased. The term personal service was changed to community missions. Mrs. W.B. Gilbert was the Community Missions Chairman.

Mrs. Claude F. Gaddy (Nannie) became President in 1945. The minutes of May 1945 reveal that Miss Elizabeth Shelton, President of the Student Government at Meredith, talked about 100 years of Baptist History and the aims of the Centennial Crusade. Bill Simpson, who was at home on furlough after having been wounded three times, spoke on prayer as a powerful weapon for the men in the army. "Instruments of Peace" was the subject of one meeting and "The Margaret Fund" of another. Miss Betty Side, a Margaret Fund student from Wake Forest College, presented the July program.

Cottage prayer meetings were held in connection with the Week of Prayer for Home Missions because "no meetings could be held at the

church except on Wednesdays because of the fuel shortage.”

Although Mrs. J. Clyde Turner was not a member of the First Baptist Church of Raleigh at the time of her Presidency of the North Carolina Woman's Missionary Union, she did spend the most formative years of her life in Raleigh.

Bertha Mae Hicks was born in Raleigh, educated at Salem College and became the wife of Dr. J. Clyde Turner, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Greensboro. She and Sallie Bailey Jones grew up together in the First Baptist Church.

Mrs. Turner has been regular and fervent in her attendance at state and district meetings of the Woman's Missionary Union, and so knew the work thoroughly. She came into the office with a fresh outlook. As she had never been present at a meeting of the Executive Committee—a decided contrast to Mrs. Jones who had literally grown up in the Committee—Mrs. Turner was able to lead in an entirely new way. With utmost skill, courtesy and patience, she restructured the Executive Committee so that it became more democratic.

The Executive Committee, meeting regularly each month and acting for the Union between annual meetings, made inestimable contributions to the development of the work.

The Golden Jubilee Celebration of Southern Union met in Asheville in 1938, and at this meeting a pageant, “Cloud of Witnesses,” written by Ruth Carver Gardner, was presented on the opening evening. Mrs. George McWilliams, Jubilee Chairman for the Southern Union, spoke on the topic “This Glad Year of Jubilee.”

Mrs. Turner inaugurated the Executive Council meeting in which the associational and divisional leaders came together for two days which were spent in prayer, hard study, practical planning, and inspiring fellowship. The first of these meetings was held in November of 1942 in First Church, Raleigh.

Mrs. Turner believed that no one person should remain in office too long, and she resigned in 1942 having served for six years as President. However, at the request of Mrs. Farmer she served again in 1945-1946. Her resignation was accepted with expressions of deep appreciation for her wise leadership and consecrated life.

The span of service of Miss Heck, Mrs. Jones, and Mrs. Turner was 58 of the one hundred years in which the state Woman's Missionary Union has been in existence. What an influence the women have had on the future of missions work!

Two new circles were added to the Society at this time, bringing the number to thirteen. The circles had remained during the war years, but the Council voted in the fall of 1945 to reorganize the circles. This practice has continued every two years.

In May of 1946, the speaker for the General Meeting was Mr. Bunn Olive, a former missionary to China, who had come to Raleigh as pastor of the Forest Hills Baptist Church. He spoke on soul winning in China and on other mission fields. In July of that year, Mr. Herbert Weatherspoon explained the new financial plan of the church to the Woman's Missionary Society. Under the new Modified Unified Budget Plan, only four special offerings would be kept separate from the General Fund Budget. They were Annie Armstrong Offering, the Lottie Moon Offering, the State Missions Offering, and the Heck-Jones Offering.

Mrs. B.Y. Tyner, who was Mission Study Chairman for the year, gave a final report at the December General Meeting. She reported 273 W.M.S. members of the Junior Missions organizations participated, and 2 groups held missionary round tables.

Mrs. G.H. Ferguson had been elected President for 1947-1949. The year of 1947 was begun with a devotional talk by Miss Ruth Provence who closed her remarks with a prayer for guidance in all W.M.U. endeavors for the forthcoming years. Mrs. Broadus Jones, wife of the pastor at that time, closed the meeting. It was during this year that it was voted that the sum of \$15.00 be advanced to each circle from the W.M.S. Treasury for each quarter. This money was to be used for community missions.

In April of this year, all circle members were asked to bring linens for the Baptist Hospital. It was suggested that a White Cross chairman be appointed for each circle to handle contributions to the hospital.

Mrs. Carl Goerch, Membership Chairman, began distributing names of new church members among each of the thirteen circles, asking that they visit these new members within the next four weeks. At this time, it was presented, moved, seconded and carried that the following recommendation be submitted to the Board of Deacons: "The Executive Board of the Woman's Missionary Society feels deeply concerned about the lack of flowers each Sunday for Church Service and recommends that the Board of Deacons devise some definite plan to handle this responsibility."

Mrs. Carl Goerch was appointed to present this recommendation to the Deacons at their next meeting.

In April of this year, Mrs. Valeria Green Rankin was the guest speaker at the General Meeting. Her topic was "China and the Mission Work."

She stressed the dangers and opportunities as two of the issues to be faced. Mrs. Ira Mullis, Treasurer, reported that the Annie Armstrong Offering total was \$685.25.

Mrs. J. Clyde Turner taught the foreign mission study book "Light of the Whole World." At the December General Meeting, Mrs. Dallas Holoman, Program Chairman, introduced Mrs. Chreston Holoman, Counselor for the Junior Girls Auxiliary. The G.A.'s presented the program. Those participating were: Nancy Tunnell, Marjorie Park, Patsy Wilkerson, Edna Holoman, Mary Miller Powers, Myrna Keith Jones, Rheta Salter, and Bertha Leigh Johnson.

The first meeting of 1949 was opened with Mrs. Ralph Moody, the President, presiding. Mrs. W.D. Spencer was in charge of the program. Mrs. J.O. Taylor displayed charts and posters of the new projects of the Foreign Mission Board. New work had been begun in Guatemala, Ecuador, Peru, and Venezuela. In Europe, plans were being made for a Baptist International Seminary near Zurich, Switzerland. Mrs. Spencer concluded her remarks with a prayer.

Mrs. Roger Marshall presided at the August General Meeting in the absence of the President. Mrs. Robert Ponton, Leader of Circle 12, was in charge of the program. She presented Royal Ambassadors Ivan and Arnold Joslin, who attended R.A. Camp at Fruitland. They gave a full account of their activities. Laura Holoman, who attended Y.W.A. camp at Seaside reported on that meeting. Mrs. Marshall read a clipping quoting Dr. Duke McCall in which he stated that the Southern Baptist Convention has experienced a 10% gain in contributions for the previous year. The ladies were informed that 40 missionaries had chosen to remain in Shanghai, China despite the dangers involved.

The Treasurer's report for 1949 which was given by Mrs. Ira Mullis on January 2, 1950 reveals that total gifts to missions were approximately \$25,000.00. Mrs. M.A. Huggins revealed plans for the Week of Prayer for Home Missions. Mrs. Milton Joslin, Young People's Director, announced that two new leaders had been secured for the G.A.'s. They were Mrs. Tom Broughton and Mrs. Dick Woodard.

The new Royal Ambassador Leaders were Miss Betty Baker and Mr. John Hunter. Five hundred, seventy-two pairs of eyeglasses were collected by the R.A.'s and taken to St. Agnes Hospital. This was their quarterly community missions project.

Mrs. Moody urged all members to attend a lecture by Dr. Norman Vincent Peale to be held at the Coliseum on April 4.

The Biblical Recorder of March 4, 1950 featured a picture of First

Baptist Church on its cover and on page 11 an article appeared which contained the following announcement: "Woman's Missionary Union to meet in Raleigh." The article states "The Woman's Missionary Union, Auxiliary to the Baptist State Convention, will hold its 1950 Annual Meeting with First Baptist Church, Raleigh, March 14-16. Some 1500 delegates and visitors from all parts of the state are expected to register. Visitors are welcome to every session of the annual meeting. Splendid seats are available in the balcony of the church. To provide for an overflow crowd, a loudspeaker will bring the program to any who assemble in the Sunday School Auditorium on the ground floor of the church building. Mrs. Ralph M. Moody is president of the Woman's Missionary Society of First Baptist Church and is giving herself untiringly in plans toward the annual meeting. Mrs. Ray L. Greene is serving as General Chairman of all committees in making preparations for the meeting. The Raleigh churches cooperating with First Baptist Church were Calvary, Forest Hills, Hayes-Barton, North St., Pullen Memorial, Tabernacle, and Temple.

Mrs. L.P. Kennedy reported forty-seven new members added to roll of the W.M.S. for the year. Circle 7 with Mrs. Parke Thomas, Leader, won a prize for the best attendance. Circle 1 had the most new members.

Mrs. Dallas Holoman, Jr., became President in 1951. The first order of business was preparation for the Associational W.M.U. Meeting which was to be held at First Baptist. Mrs. Clyde Smith was Mission Study Chairman. She urged all members to read the mission study book "Oh, Jerusalem." Mr. Lee Pridgen, Associational Director of Missions, was to be the teacher. At the March General Meeting, Mrs. Holoman expressed appreciation to Mrs. Foy Johnson Farmer for her outstanding leadership as State W.M.U. President. Mrs. J. Clyde Turner wrote concerning Mrs. Farmer, "Foy grew to young womanhood in the home of Dr. Wingate Johnson. After finishing high school, she entered the Baptist Female University, now Meredith College, from which she graduated in 1907."

In June 1911, she married the Reverend Calder T. Willingham, who was at home on furlough from Japan. To Kokura, Japan, she went to plant her life alongside of his. The story is told that, when Mrs. Johnson questioned her daughter as to whether she felt definitely called of God to go as a missionary, Foy answered that she felt called to marry Mr. Willingham! Subsequent history has proven how true was her call to Japan. After Mr. Willingham's death in America during the influenza epidemic of 1918, Foy Willingham returned to Japan alone, this time to serve in Shimonoseki in charge of the book store and the program of evangelism. Her stay there was cut short by illness.

In 1922, Foy Willingham was married to Rev. James S. Farmer, business manager and later editor of the *Biblical Recorder*, and faithful pastor. Rich heritage these gave their children, Fannie Memory and James. As a busy mother and pastor's wife, Mrs. Farmer continued her active interest and participation in W.M.U. work, serving in many positions of responsibility.

When a chairman was needed in North Carolina to promote the celebration of the Golden Jubilee of Southern Union, the choice fell upon Mrs. Farmer. In preparation for the significant commemoration in Richmond in May 1938, each state presented a special program at its state meeting. Mr. Farmer died suddenly in February of that year. When the Jubilee plans were brought to the state annual meeting in Asheville in March, the women were deeply moved and challenged by Mrs. Farmer's loyalty, expressed by her presence and leadership. So splendid was the spirit of co-operation in North Carolina that the financial goal was exceeded by four thousand dollars.

As state mission study chairman from 1939 to 1942, Mrs. Farmer rendered invaluable service in stimulating study and interest in this important department. She herself was the author of several books, as previously mentioned.

In Winston-Salem in 1942, Mrs. Farmer was elected president of Woman's Missionary Union. She continued in this position until May 1945, at which time she became acting executive secretary to meet an emergency in the state leadership. After ten months of this service, she was again elected president at the annual meeting in High Point in 1946. In March 1951, she completed her tenure of five years of continuous service.

The remarkable growth which came in the work of the Union during her presidency is tribute indeed. At the beginning of 1942, there were 4,075 W.M.U. organizations in the state. At the close of 1950 there were 5,498. In 1942, 83,521 women and young people were reported as members of Woman's Missionary Union; in 1950, 112,757. A total of 2,255 organizations were engaging in personal service at the beginning of her presidency; at the close, 3,269, in the larger fields of community missions. Mission study classes increased from 3,501 to 7,686. In 1942, 10,053 women and young people were reported as tithers; in 1950, 32,039. Total annual gifts increased during these years from \$338,083.60 to \$922,543.83. No such progress can be recorded without sincere gratitude to God. With the help of able co-workers, Mrs. Farmer met the challenge of each phase of the work and contributed largely to its growth and success.

Mrs. Holoman in February asked Mrs. Farmer to discuss plans for the forthcoming revival in the church. Mrs. Farmer reported that Dr. Sankey Blanton would be coming as guest speaker for a revival to be held April 2-8. The Community Missions Chairman of each circle was asked to plan at least one home prayer meeting in preparation. Mrs. Farmer also reported that the North Carolina Woman's Missionary Union gave \$178,000.00 to the Little Moon Christmas Offering, exceeding the goal by \$18,000.00.

According to the minutes of May Officers Council, the N.C. Baptist Homes for the Aged were mentioned for the first time. Mrs. Holoman gave information from the Home for the Aged in Winston-Salem.

Mrs. R.N. Simms, Jr., reported that Miss Lillian Lu of Taiwan was much in need of funds according to a letter received from Miss Ina Belle Coleman. The council then voted the gift of \$56.00 to be sent to help Miss Lu with medical treatment for her eyes.

Mrs. Albert Haskins, Stewardship Chairman, was pleased to announce that there were 108 tithers in the Society, a gain of 4 for the year.

It was during this year that the W.M.U. year was changed from the calendar year (January-December) to October-September.

Mrs. H.L. Barrett began her first year as President with a stewardship night for all W.M.U. members. The Junior and Senior Y.W.A.'s gave the program. Mrs. E.H. Simpson was in charge of planning the banquet which was the major stewardship emphasis for the year. Mrs. O.N. Rich was the new leader for the Senior Y.W.A.'s and Mrs. R.N. Sims, Jr., was the leader for the Junior Y.W.A.'s.

The Little Moon Christmas Offering for this year was \$2,706.01. The goal for the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for 1952 was set at \$1,150.00. At this time, a prayer service was held each day of the week, Monday through Friday, with a different circle in charge each day.

It was voted by the Council that the expense of the President and the Young People's Director to attend the W.M.U. State Convention should be borne by the W.M.S. up to the amount of \$50.00.

During the General Meeting for October, Dr. Frank Parker showed slides of his recent trip to Central America.

Mrs. Herman Senter, Membership Chairman, reported that the year would begin with 357 members on roll. The average attendance at General Meetings had been 113.

The G.A. Coronation Service which was held in May of 1952 featured

two queens and the first queen regent. This step had recently been added to the forward steps. Lynn Courtney was the first queen regent not only at First Baptist but also in the Raleigh Association. The Council upon the recommendation of the Treasurer voted to present Lynn with a white Bible.

A request was made by Mrs. Theron Upchurch that used clothing be brought to the July General Meeting to be sent to the missionaries in Korea who were trying to aid the Korean people whose homes were being destroyed in the war. The used clothing was to be packed by the Young Men's Bible Class.

On September 23, Mrs. Foy Farmer taught her book "Hitherto", a history of Woman's Missionary Union from 1888-1950. A tea was planned by Miss Ora Alford, Miss Ellen Durham, and Mrs. Roger Marshall.

Mrs. W.D. Spencer became President of the Society in September of 1952. The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for that year was \$3,218.59, the largest amount ever raised for foreign missions to that time.

In March of 1953, at the General Meeting, Mrs. Spencer announced that the Hudson McMillans, having been driven out of China by the Communist takeover, had sailed for the Bahamas and would be located there.

Mrs. J.B. Hipps, who worked for many years in Shanghai University, Shanghai, China, gave a most enlightening talk on her experiences behind the Bamboo Curtain during her last four months in China as Communists overran the country.

At a later General Meeting, Mrs. Pembroke Baker introduced Dr. L.L. Carpenter, editor of the Biblical Recorder, who gave a report of the recent Southern Baptist Convention in Texas.

Miss Ruth Provence, having visited the mission fields of Mexico and Central America in her capacity as Executive Secretary of North Carolina Woman's Missionary Union, brought firsthand knowledge of the work in these fields of endeavor.

It was announced at the August General Meeting that a Season of Prayer for State Missions would be observed September 13-18. The goal for the Society was \$1,120.00, which would be taken on September 21. The goal was exceeded by more than \$140.00, making a total of \$1,268.15 for State Missions.

Mrs. Foy Johnson Farmer, not content to rest upon her laurels as a past State President, assumed the responsibility for the W.M.U. in Sep-

tember of 1954. She brought with her the experience of a lifetime of Christian service as pastor's wife, missionary, and writer. Not only did she write *Hitherto*, but also *Sacrifice and Song*, *Publishing Glad Tidings*, *At the Gate of Asia*, and *Sallie Bailey Jones*.

"Pilgrimage to Brazil" was the Mission Study Book for the autumn of 1954. The book was taught for the W.M.S. by Mrs. Charles E. Maddrey.

Mrs. G.D. Franks, a missionary in Europe, spoke at the November General Meeting. Her topic was "Our Baptist Seminary at Ruschlikon, Switzerland."

At the April 1955 General Meeting Mrs. Lee Parker, Leader of Circle 7, presented Dr. J. Clyde Turner who chose as his topic "Soul Winning—the Heart of Community Missions."

The W.M.U. Scholarship Fund had grown to a point that guidelines were necessary in the awarding of scholarships. The following stipulations were adopted in July 1955:

1. To be awarded each year in August by Woman's Missionary Society upon recommendation of the Executive Committee.
2. Recipient shall be a girl of strong Christian character—a member of a Baptist Church in North Carolina who will be studying in one of our Baptist Junior or Senior Colleges and has financial need.
3. The money shall be sent directly to the College to be credited to the recipient's account and the recipient notified by the Treasurer of the W.M.S.
4. Application for the Scholarship shall be made to the Executive Committee through the W.M.S. President, and shall be accompanied by a letter of recommendation from the applicant's Pastor or former teacher.

Miss Marilyn Green was awarded the scholarship in the amount of \$758.00 for the 1955-56 term at Meredith College.

Dr. Edwin S. Preston was presented by Mrs. W.B. Dewar, Program Chairman for the September General Meeting. Dr. Preston recounted his impressions and experiences while attending the Baptist World Alliance and showed slides of his trip.

Mrs. Carson Baucom, Leader of Circle 6, presented Miss Miriam Robinson, the New Executive Secretary of N.C.W.M.U. as speaker for the November meeting. Miss Robinson spoke on "The purpose of missions, our obligation to missions, and our reward for missions work."

Miss Virginia Miles, missionary to the Philippines, was another outstanding speaker of this year. She emphasized the urgent need for Protestant missionaries in the Philippines where the pagans and Catholics have such a stronghold.

Mrs. Carroll Weathers was the Young People's Leader for two years. Those who worked with the young people were Mrs. Lucile Joslin, Mrs. Larry Ball, Miss Frances Alexander, Robert Ponton, and Albert Haskins.

In April of 1956, Mrs. C.W. Applewhite told of the experiences she and Dr. Applewhite had in accepting the call to go to the mission field. Dr. Applewhite, whose mother had been a member of the society for many years, accepted the call during the Week of Prayer Services in Statesville in 1955. They served at the Baptist Hospital in Kediri, Indonesia.

Dr. Broadus Jones, Pastor of the church, spoke to the Executive Committee on October 1. He expressed appreciation to Mrs. Foy Farmer, the outgoing President, and welcomed Mrs. D.M. Wood as the new President. He assured the Board of his personal interest in the work of the missionary union, and the willingness of the Pastor and the church to cooperate with all missionary endeavors. Mrs. Wood reported 354 members were on the roll of the Woman's Missionary Union. It was at this meeting that a motion was made to change the time of meeting to Monday mornings at 10:30. The motion carried, and the time has remained unchanged.

Mrs. M.O. Alexander and Mrs. Clyde Eby planned the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions in 1957. The goals of \$4,500.00 which had been set was exceeded by more than \$100.00.

On January 21, 1957, a motion was made, seconded and passed to extend an invitation to the State W.M.U. to meet in the Church for the State Convention in March 1959.

The Fiftieth Anniversary of the founding of Y.W.A. was observed with the young women having a banquet in celebration. All prospective members were invited to participate in this observance. Miss Frances Alexander, Leader of the Senior Y.W.A. expressed appreciation to each circle which had contributed to help defray costs. She reported that Miss Miriam Robinson spoke to the group. The Y.W.A. took as an anniversary project the "adoption" of two children at the Baptist Orphanage. They agreed to buy clothing and to meet the need for other necessities for these children.

The February 1957 General Meeting had as its featured speaker Mr. Charles Cowherd who had served in China before the Communist

takeover and was serving in Indonesia. He asked for special prayer to undergird the work of all missionaries, and urged all of the women to begin "A revival of prayer in the churches—prayer that should start in the home."

The Treasurer, Mrs. Ira Mullis, reported at the April General Meeting that the Annie Armstrong Offering had exceeded its goal of \$2,700.00 by \$2,000!

The Nominating Committee for Circle Leaders made the following report to the Society at the July General Meeting; "The recommendations for Circle Leaders are as follows: Mrs. Roy Purser, Mrs. John Hunter, Mrs. Hugh McManus, Mrs. Gordon Riddick, Mrs. Paul Yelverton, Mrs. J.A. Stewart, Mrs. L.R. Harrill, Mrs. W.F. Gilbert, Mrs. Theron A. Upchurch, Miss Kate Matthews, Mrs. H.A. Helms, Mrs. Brooks Price, Mrs. Mack Perry, and Miss Mary Hanes Tucker." These were duly elected. At this time, there were 16 circles, with a total membership of 359.

Dr. Mary Lynch Johnson, Professor at Meredith College, was the featured speaker for the August 1957 General Meeting. Her topic was "Knowledge Is Power." The thrust of her message was that power should not be a goal in itself but should have intelligence and kindness with the good of all peoples as its ultimate goal.

Mrs. L.R. Harrill was installed as President of the W.M.U. at the September 1958 General Meeting. Mrs. R.N. Simms, Jr., Program Chairman, announced that the programs for the year were to be based on the Four Fundamentals of W.M.U.: Prayer, Stewardship, Community Missions, and Mission Study. Mrs. W.D. Spencer, Prayer Chairman, announced the formation of an Intercessory Prayer League and suggested that 9:00 a.m. be the time of prayer for every member of this league.

The State Mission Offering Goal was exceeded during the month of October. Mrs. H.L. Barrett, Chairman for the Seasons of Prayer, planned programs for every day of the week December 1-6. Mrs. W.B. Dewar, Director of the Young People's Organizations, announced at the October meeting that a new organization for unmarried women in their twenties was being planned. Mrs. Karl Graetz accepted the leadership of the Junior Y.W.A.; Mrs. C.B. Taylor and Mrs. Carlos Gray, the leadership of the Lelia McMillan G.A. Mrs. Jack Moore and her assistants were working with the Junior G.A. Miss Gladys Dewar and her assistants continued their work with the Sunbeams.

The Lottie Moon Offering Goal of \$4,900.00 had been surpassed by January 9, 1959. Mrs. Robert Yancey reported that there were 352

members of the Woman's Missionary Society. With more than 150 in the Young People's Organizations, the membership passed the 500 mark for the first time in the history of the organization. Among the new members were Mrs. William S. Hunt and Mrs. Edwin S. Preston, Jr.

On February 2, 1959 Mrs. Farmer described the funeral of Dr. Hudson McMillan. She said that "it was a service full of praise, gratitude, love, and dedication of lives to the Lord's service." The goal for the Annie Armstrong Offering was announced as \$2,600.00 with the theme "Tarry and Tell" for the Week of Prayer for Home Missions, March 2-6. This goal was exceeded by more than \$400.00.

Two G.A.'s received special Recognition at the G.A. Coronation. They were Jane Helms and Emily Wyatt who achieved the rank of Queen-With-a-Scepter. There were four R.A. members who also received awards.

Dr. Douglas Branch, General Secretary of the Baptist State Convention, was the speaker for the September General Meeting. He told of the organizational structure and work of the convention. Following his address, the State Missions Offering was received. The goal of \$1,800.00 was exceeded.

A Professor of Missions at Southeastern Seminary, Dr. Emily Lansdell, told of her experiences as a missionary in China prior to coming back to the States, first as Director of the W.M.U. Training School in Louisville, Kentucky, and then as a teacher at Southeastern Seminary.

The W.M.U. selected as a quarterly missions project the Baptist Good Will Center. Each circle selected one child who attended the center and brought an article of clothing and a Christmas toy for them. The ladies at St. Luke's Home were given a Christmas party. Gifts of food were also taken to the Ladies Ward of the County Home on Whitaker Mill Road.

The November General Meeting of the Society in 1957 was the first luncheon meeting. The change of time from midafternoon seemed to be agreeable and many circles preferred having their meetings previous to the General Meeting. Mrs. A.J. Smith, wife of a former pastor of the First Baptist Church of Goldsboro, was the speaker. Her topic was "The Magic of Christmas" in which she expressed the glory of the ages-old story and made it new and compelling.

An international Youth Conference was held during this year in Williamsburg, Virginia. Each of the circles contributed to the expense of sending a student from our church to this conference. The Prison Ministry continued with \$50.00 allocated toward a Christmas celebration at the prison. The Community Missions Project for the fall quarter was a

Christmas gift or gifts from each circle to help a child visually handicapped at the Governor Morehead School.

The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering Goal for the year of \$4,200.00 was exceeded during the Week of Prayer. Mrs. C.W. Applewhite, mother of Dr. Winfield Applewhite, gave the dedicatory prayer for the offering. The final total was more than \$5,000.00 for this year.

In April of 1958, the W.M.S. voted to give \$25.00 to the Community Ambassador Project. The Church Conference agreed to match this amount in order to make it possible for a young person to represent Raleigh in a foreign country. Two scholarships were given by the W.M.S. as money became available. The first was to Judy Hicks who made the Dean's List both semesters at Mars Hill; the other to Louise White at Meredith College.

The Emphasis for this year "Every Church at Prayer for Missions Advance" was designated by the Southern Baptist Convention as a year of prayer.

Mrs. Robert N. Simms, Jr., was in charge of the Girls Auxiliary Recognition and Coronation Service during the month of May. She was appropriately recognized at the May General Meeting.

Mrs. Milton Joslin and Mrs. Elmo Williams also received assistance for their class for the deaf.

Mrs. Harrill announced at the January 1960 General Meeting that Dr. John M. Lewis, who had recently been called as Pastor, would preach his first sermon on February 7, 1960, and that he and his family would be honored with a reception.

"The Promises of God" was the program topic for the April General Meeting. Mrs. Baker James Cauthen was the speaker. Dr. Cauthen was Secretary for the Orient of the Foreign Mission Board. Mrs. Cauthen brought missionary needs to the attention of the W.M.U. both in Asia and in other parts of the world.

Mrs. Russell Nipper brought the Devotional at the May meeting. She talked on family values basing her thoughts on the Book, *House with a Home Inside*.

On July 18, Mr. Claude Gaddy was the speaker for the General Meeting. He gave a report on the Southern Baptist Convention which had been held in June in Miami, Florida. Mr. Gaddy stated that over 1500 North Carolinians attended the convention, and he was most enthusiastic as to the overall spirit of humility and challenge of self-examination which pervaded all meetings of the Convention.

"O Give Thanks Unto the Lord, Call upon His name; make known His deeds among the people." Psalm 105:1 was the W.M.U. watchword for 1963-64. Mrs. A. Larry Rogers was President for 1962-1964.

Leaders of the Primary Sunbeam Band were Mrs. Troy A. Doby and Mrs. James L. Purser. Some of the Sunbeams were Ellen Clayton, Brenda Collier, Sammy Dillard, Bobby Crocker, and Jimmy Hamrick. The Junior Girls Auxiliary was led by Mrs. Russell Nipper and Mrs. Roger S. Barham.

The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering goal of \$6,000.00 was exceeded as well as the Annie Armstrong Goal of \$2,000.00. In addition, \$592.00 was spent on Community Missions Work and \$60.00 for work at the Women's Prison.

There were four women whose influence on the work of the Woman's Missionary Society had been very great who died during this year. They were Mrs. Charles E. Brewer, Mrs. Claude Gaddy (Nannie), Mrs. Clarence Poe and Mrs. J. Clyde Turner.

In 1964, Mrs. C. Gordon Maddrey assumed the Presidency of the Woman's Missionary Union. Mrs. Maddrey came to First Baptist Church from the First Baptist Church of Ahsokie. She graduated from Meredith College and received her Masters Degree in Political Science from Columbia University. From 1946 to 1951, she served the Woman's Missionary Union of North Carolina as the state mission study chairwoman. Her vivacious spirit and striking leadership qualities were manifested through these five years, and in 1951 she was elected to serve as state President. Mrs. Farmer said of her "her boundless energy was contagious, she had through the capacity of "the President's Message" at each Annual Session the ability to inspire, inform, and motivate women to higher levels of achievement. In particular, she called the women to faithfulness to the Weeks of Prayer, to study, and to sharing of possessions."

In the very beginning of her service, Mrs. Maddrey challenged Baptist women to take seriously their missions leadership role in the local church. She stressed the necessity for conviction and commitment if the people of the world are to know Christ. In her presidential message at the Annual Session meeting in Durham in 1952, she said, "The kindling of missionary interest through the spread of missionary information continues to be a major need in our work."

In addition to an inspiring program on the theme "Crown Him Lord," the announcement was made at this session that the Heck-Jones Memorial Offering had reached \$35,414.17. Of this amount \$5,000.00 was

voted to be a designated gift to make possible a new Maiquru Kindergarten in Fukuoka, Japan. This gift was made in honor of Mrs. Farmer, who had served as a missionary in Japan.

Special recognition was given at the 1953 Annual Session in Wilmington, through a pageant "Thy Light" commemorating the Ruby Anniversary of Girl's Auxiliary.

Growth was experienced in the years 1952-1953 under Mrs. Maddrey's leadership. One hundred and thirty new organizations came into being. There was an increase in the missionary societies observing the Seasons of Prayer which resulted in a large increase in special offerings.

During the years 1953-1955, Mrs. Maddrey stressed the missionary fundamentals: Mission Study, Stewardship, and Community Missions.

That same spirit which she had exhibited in the years of State Presidency, Mrs. Maddrey brought to the leadership of the First Baptist Church. Committees were expanded, mission goals were raised and exceeded, five day observances were held for all of the Special Seasons of Prayer.

In addition to the many Community Missions projects of the Union, a new project was begun, The Chapel of the Nameless Woman at the Women's Correctional Center was made one of the goals of 1965-1966. More than \$282.00 was contributed to this project.

In September of 1966, Mrs. Roy M. Purser, Jr., chose as the Hymn for the Year "O Master Let Me Walk With Thee." The W.M.U. Watchword for 1966-67 was "But grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ." II Peter 3:14.

This was the first year that a President of Woman's Missionary Union, Southern Baptist Convention, had come to First Baptist since Miss Fannie Heck was President. Mrs. Helen Fling brought a global perspective to the 1966 Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions as she spoke of her travels in Africa and the Far East. Mrs. Fling challenged not only our church but other churches of the Association who met with us to see the needs of the world and to pray, give, and send others that the name of Jesus Christ might be known among the nations.

The year 1967 was a year of change during which the W.M.U. S.B.C. recommended certain changes in the organizational structure. After consultation with the Past Presidents, the current President, Mrs. Purser, reached the conclusion that some of the changes were not in the best interest of the church W.M.U. and these changes were not implemented. There were two of the recommended changes that were carried out. The

first of these was the recommendation that a W.M.U. Director be appointed who would serve on the Church Council and would have supervision of the Young People's Organizations.

There was another change that was made. On the final Sunday morning of the Week of Prayer for Home and Foreign Missions, a Men's Prayer Breakfast was planned as a part of the Week of Prayer Services. This breakfast meeting enabled men who had not been able to attend services during the week to feel that they had a part in the services and gave them a special opportunity for giving.

An Intecossory Prayer Group, which had been begun when Mrs. W.D. Spencer was Prayer Chairman in 1952, was reactivated. All prayer requests made to the church were relayed to members of the Intercessory Prayer Group. Through these prayers, daily intercession was made for those whose needs were made known, families and loved ones were strengthened by the knowledge that someone was praying daily for their needs.

During these years, an International Student Sunday was held at which time all of the International Students at North Carolina State, Meredith, and other area colleges were invited to participate in the Sunday Morning Worship Service and then visit a host family from the church in their home for Sunday Dinner. The program was well received by both students and church families. Many lasting friendships were formed which have continued through many years.

Mrs. Jack F. Moore was Mission Action Chairman during 1966-68. Under her leadership, the W.M.U. reached out into all sections of the community. The Baptist Good Will Center was a special emphasis during these years. The Good Will Center representatives were Mrs. Joseph G. ELkins, Jr., Mrs. Carl Goerch, and Mrs. P.J. Schwarz. Mission Action projects for this year, in addition to the Good Will Center, were Dorothea Dix Hospital, International Students, The Fuller Baptist Mission, Juvenile Rehabilitation, as well as the work with the deaf under the direction of Mrs. Elmo Williams.

Mrs. Troy Doby, Mrs. John Ellington, and Mrs. Johnny M. Shaver were leaders of the Sunbeam Band. Some of the boys and girls who were Sunbeams during these years of 1968-69 were Wiley Blackburn, Scott Blalock, Penny Brantley, Angela Bray, Buddy Byrum, Karen Calloway, Linda Cheek, Susan Ellington, David Fleming, Lisa Hill, Anne Johnson, Pam Lewis, Chip Liles, John Marshall, Marchelle Moore, Giles Perry, Paula Purser, Allan Shaver, Julie Wallace, Grey and Kelly Wilson.

Mrs. Elmo Williams and Mrs. Roy Purser, Jr., were leaders of the Foy

J. Farmer Girls Auxiliary. Members were Helen Ann Brown, Joy Crutchfield, Jane Dunn, Mary Beth Fleming, Jan Freeman, Sarah Hamrick, Jeanie Jantz, Sandra Marshall, Kathy Purser, and Dawn Williams.

The Lelia McMillan Girls Auxiliary had been named for the wife of Dr. Hudson McMillan. Mrs. James Mallory, the wife of the Associate Minister, and Mrs. James S. Newbold were leaders of this group. Gail Collier, Elizabeth Dunn, Susan Fleming, Kathleen Haskins, Susan Milliken, Margaret Newbold, Martha Powell, Carla Stephenson, and Patricia Womble were active members of this group.

Missions offerings for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering was \$6,394.76 in 1968. The Annie Armstrong Offering in 1969 was \$3,702.18; Heck-Jones Memorial Offering was \$1,231.75 and the State Missions Offering, \$1,879.97.

The W.M.U. Year of 1970 was begun with the reading of the W.M.U. Watchword "Our love should not be just words and talk, it must be true love, which shows itself in action." (I John 3:18 TEV) Mrs. R.N. Simms, Jr., was again President. Mrs. J. Yates Parker continued to serve as Treasurer. Mrs. E.T. Currin was Mission Action Chairman. These three officers comprised the Budget Committee. A total Budget of \$16,405.02 was proposed with receipts exceeding disbursements by \$1,085.32. *Few Among Many* was the title of the Home Mission Study Book. The work of establishing Southern Baptist Churches in the Northeastern United States was the challenge of this area in which so much of the United States Population is concentrated.

"India's Legacy" was the study topic for the month of April. Mrs. Edgar M. Wyatt was in charge of this program which focused on the second century of Baptist faith and witness in India.

Group Leaders for the year in addition to Mrs. Wyatt were Mrs. James Mallory, Mrs. W.J. Sykes, Mrs. Parke Thomas, Mrs. J. Yates Parker, Mrs. D.H. Boney, Mrs. Clyde Eby, Mrs. T.A. Upchurch, Mrs. Hugh McManus, Mrs. J. Stuart Whitley, Miss Meredith Byrd, Miss Gladys Currin, Mrs. Harry Zepp, and Mrs. Luther Copeland.

World Friends Leaders for the year were Mrs. Charles R. Tucker and Mrs. M.P. Hill. Wiley Blackburn, Angela Bray, Mary Clyde Bridgers, Liz Brooks, Emily Calloway, Nancy Davis, David Fleming, Karen Freeman, Lisa Hill, Carey Hunter, Jr., Anne Johnson, Theresa Ann Stuart, Cynthia Suggs, Elizabeth Yancy and Michael York were some of the members.

The LaVerne Applewhite Y.W.A.'s were lead by Miss Martha Stephenson. Those who participated in various phases of Mission Activities were Elaine Campbell, Gayle Collier, Marie Dillard, Elizabeth Dunn,

Carolyn Griffin, Kathleen Hoskins, Nancy Iler, Becky Nipper, Betsy Rives, Louise Sullivan, Cathy Walton, Kathy Williams, and Janet Womble.

The G.A. Director, Mrs. Thomas C. Bray, planned and directed the G.A. Coronation Service and Reception in May. She was assisted by the Sponsoring Groups who helped to provide the refreshments for the reception following the coronation.

The Constitution and By-Laws were completely revised in order to reflect changes in terminology which prevailed throughout the WMU, SBC.

In October of 1971, Mrs. D.M. Wood became the WMU Director. Serving with her were Mrs. Henry A. Helms, President of Baptist Women. Mrs. William S. Hunt and Mrs. George B. Pruden served as Vice-Presidents.

Mission Action Co-Chairmen Mrs. Carl Goerch and Mrs. Jack Moore organized a tutoring program for children of school age who came to the Baptist Good Will Center. Many of the children needed help with reading. Tutors, who were former teachers, were enlisted and the program was carried out one afternoon of each week during the school term.

The office of Historian was added to the Baptist Women Officers. With Mrs. Clinton B. Galphin as Historian, past records of the Woman's Missionary Union were placed in the church vault for safe-keeping. Mrs. Galphin tried to collect as many of the records of former years as possible in anticipation of a time when a formal history would be written.

During this year, groups were divided according to the interests of the members:

- Group 1 - Mission Action
- Group 2 - Mission Prayer
- Group 3 - Current Missions
- Group 4 - Current Missions
- Group 5 - Bible Study
- Group 6 - Bible Study
- Group 7 - Current Missions
- Group 8 - Current Missions
- Group 9 - Current Missions
- Group 10 - Bible Study
- Group 11 - Missions Roundtable
- Group 12 - Current Missions
- Group 13 - Current Missions
- Group 14 - Missions Roundtable

The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering totaled \$6,794.39; the Annie Armstrong Offering was \$1,252.59; and the Heck-Jones Memorial Offering was \$1,252.59.

Mrs. Carl Goerch died during the year of 1972. The dedication of the yearbook to her memory bespoke the high esteem in which she was held by all members. Although she was never President of the organization, her strength was in helping others. She had organized the International Student Program, the tutoring program, and a literacy program for teaching adults to read by the Laubach method.

Several of the General Meeting Programs offer an insight into the issues of the day. The April General Meeting Program was "Developing Sensitivity to Persons." "Seeing Life from the Other Side" - a program devoted to how persons who live in poverty view their world was very thought provoking. Miss Irma Ray, Leader of Group 6, presented the June 11 program, "Relying on the Holy Spirit", a timely topic for each member.

All Missions Offering goals were raised for the year for a Special Offerings total of \$13,400.00 - the highest ever reached in any year. The Mission Support Co-Chairmen were Mrs. Zeno Martin and Mrs. Royster Chamblee.

The 1973-74 Watchword, "The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us . . . full of grace and truth." John 1:14, was the basis of the WMU Emphasis Mission Support. The first General Meeting of the Year was opened with the singing of the old hymn "Word of God, Across the Ages." Mrs. D.M. Wood was again the WMU Director, with Mrs. Edwin S. Preston as Baptist Women President. Mrs. Preston had served the church for eighteen years as Director of Religious Education. She brought a wealth of experience and knowledge of the Baptist work to the years of her Presidency. Enlistment Directors were Mrs. Clyde Eby and Mrs. T.P. Matthews.

Mrs. George B. Pruden, Leader of Group 1, presented the General Meeting program on October 15. "The Three R's - Rhodesian Style" was the topic for the program which dealt with the teaching of the children in this Central African nation.

The theme for the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions was "God's Unspeakable Gift." The goal of \$6,500.00 for Foreign Missions was reached and surpassed.

"Now Is The Time to Take a Giant Step" was the motto for enlistment of WMU members during 1973-74. At this time, there were 294 members of Baptist women, 25 members of Baptist Young Women, 42

members of Mission, 20 G.A.'s and 19 Acteens, for a membership of 400.

Officers for the year of 1974-75 were Mrs. D.M. Wood, Director; Mrs. J. Yates Parker, Treasurer; Mrs. John C. Gill, Baptist Women President; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Troy A. Doby; Assistant Recording Secretary, Mrs. J.L. Norris; Enlistment Directors, Mrs. Clyde L. Smith and Mrs. Thomas P. McCrary; Mission Action Directors, Mrs. E.T. Currin and Mrs. Carl Murphy; Mission Support Chairman, Mrs. C. Gordon Maddrey; Mission Study Chairman, Mrs. Harry Zepp; Assistant Mission Study Chairman, Mrs. W.H. Simpson and Mrs. Jack F. Moore; Historian and Literature Chairman, Mrs. Clinton B. Galphin; Baptist Young Women President, Mrs. K.M. Huggins.

The Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions was celebrated using the theme "Grace So Amazing—Love So Divine." Dr. and Mrs. Winfield Applewhite, our missionaries in Indonesia, were speaker speakers for the week. Since this week also included Mrs. Applewhite's birthday, a party was arranged to give opportunity for the ladies to honor her on the actual day.

WMU Focus Week was observed February 9-15 of the year 1975.

Five members attended the WMU State Convention, which was held in Oven Auditorium in Charlotte.

Mrs. Roy M. Purser, Jr., of our church had become Associational WMU Director in April of this year. She and Mrs. Josephine Adams, who was Leader of Group 9, attended the Southern Baptist Convention, which was held in Miami, Florida, June 8-12.

The Week of Prayer for Home Missions was held March 2-9. "Herein Is Hope" was the theme. One of the featured speakers was Mark McAllister, whose work with the Home Mission Board is in the mountains of West Virginia. He spoke of his work among coal miners whose livelihood is frequently threatened by layoffs. He spoke of how the love of Christ helps to sustain these mountain people through many hard times. Mark closed his remarks by reminding his listeners of the words of Paul: "God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself—and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation." (2 Cor. 5:19)

During this year Mrs. S.M. Crocker, Jr., and Mrs. M.E. Valentine ceased to be the Mission Friends leaders after nearly twenty years of service. Special tribute was paid to them at the time of the G.A. and Acteens Recognition Service. The new leaders were Mrs. Thomas Toms and Mrs. William S. Hunt, Jr. Among Mission Friends were Jimmy Ballinger, Charles Barham III, Manning Connors, Matthew English,

Jonathan Etheridge, Kathryn Green, Scott Green, Chip Hawkins, Ann Hiott, Teresa Gaskill, Scott Hunt, Burke Koonce, Patricia Gail Miller, Anthony and Hudson Moore, Anthony and Jeremy Petty, Tommy Phillips, Cindy and Jil Roberts, Mark Traylor, Josh Vaughan, Noel Wilkinson, and Michael Williams.

The Director of G.A.'s was Mrs. Albert Calloway. Under her leadership many girls began to attain the ranks of Queens, Queens-With-Scepter, Queens Regent, and as they became Acteens, Queens-Regent-In-Service and Service Aid. In 1975, there were twenty-one girls who received recognition for their Missions Activities and knowledge. They were:

Queens

Melanie Brown
Emily Calloway
Annette Jones
Cheryl Jones
Tanja White

Queens-With Scepter

Susan Ferrell
Machelle Moore
Julie Wallaces

Queens Regent

Angela Bray
Karen Calloway
Lisa Hill

Queens Regent In Service

Ann Baldwin
Ruth Fleming

Marie Hiott
Lisa Kline

Linda Wallace

Service Aid

Helen Anne Brown

Amy Crutchfield

"Where The Spirit of the Lord Is—There Is Freedom (2 Cor. 3:15), with this theme for the year of 1976 the members of Woman's Missionary Union celebrated the two hundredth anniversary of the founding of our nation. Mrs. John C. Gill became the Baptist Women President and Mrs. Austin Conners, Baptist Young Women President. The Theme for the Week of Prayer for Home Missions was "A New Birth of Freedom."

The Missions Offering Goals were increased substantially for the year of 1976, with \$8,000.00 the goal for Foreign Missions, \$4,000.00 the

goal for Home Missions, \$1,000.00 the goal for the Heck-Jones Memorial offering, and \$2,600.00 the goal for the State Missions Offering. All of the Missions Offering Goals were reached and some were exceeded.

The Yearbook for 1975-1976 was dedicated to Mrs. W.S. Penny whose generous gift at her death to the Woman's Missionary Union made it possible to greatly increase the Missions goals. Others who had been workers and leaders whose deaths were mourned this year were Mrs. Carson D. Baucom, Miss Sue Drinnen, Mrs. Annie B. Edwards, Miss Helen Holloway, Miss Annie Pearl Parker, Mrs. S.F. Teague, and Mrs. D.C. Stephenson.

Mrs. J. Dick Moore became the W.M.U. Director in October of 1976. The W.M.U. Emphases were "Teach Missions To Know, To Grow," and "Minding The Future" with emphasis on the missions organizations for young people.

The Foreign Missions Theme for the Week of Prayer was "Good News of a Great Joy." Special speakers for this week were Mr. and Mrs. John Poe, who were missionaries in Mozambique.

Mrs. Minnie Hussey, who had been a missionary to China for more than thirty years, had come to live in Raleigh, She had been a member of the church and of the W.M.U. for more than ten years. It was with regret that the Union placed her name along with that of Dr. Pattie Dowell in its book of memory.

The February 21 General Meeting program was presented by Mission Friends, Girls In Action and Acteens. Using the Annual Emphasis "Minding The Future" they reminded all of the members of the importance of early missions training in providing the knowledge and dedication that were necessary for the future spread of the gospel.

"Our Land for Christ" was the theme of the Week of Prayer for Home Missions. The Annie Armstrong Easter Offering Goal was \$5,000.00.

The reactivation of the Royal Ambassadors was a major project of this year, with Mr. William Boatwright as Director, the following Leaders were secured: Mrs. Graham Crutchfield, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Toms, and Mr. Phillip Ford. Crusaders I were Jeff Ammons, Charlie Barham, Matthew Diehl, Matthew English, Carey Ford, Anthony and Hudson Moore, Jeremy Petty, Tommy Phillips, Edd Roberts, Randy Scott and Mike Williams. Crusaders II were Phillip Brown, Jonathan Etheridge, Scott Greene, Chip Hawkins, Aaron Harden, Alan Harden, Scott Hunt, Anthony Petty, David Smoot, Owen Tharrington and Mark Traylor. Crusaders III were David Cone, Nelson Cooper, John Crutchfield, Joey Etheridge, Craig Evans, Chris Ford, Gary

Greene, Dickie Moore, David Nanney, Doug and Kent Oglesby, Thadd Roberts, Jeff Tucker, and Scott Wilkinson.

Some of the General Meeting programs for the year were of special interest.

On October 16, the topic was "The Japanese Woman at Home in the Church, and in the World." This was of special interest to the women of the church because at this time, Dr. and Mrs. Luther Copeland, who had been members of the church were serving as missionaries in Japan. Group 9, under the leadership of Mrs. Harry Zepp examined Christian Lifestyles with a program entitled "My Life My Witness." Mrs. Claude Gaddy (Mary Lily) and her group gave members a look at life in West Africa with "Food for Body and Spirit in Zambia."

The receipts for this year for all Missions Offerings were the highest recorded to this time. They were:

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering	\$10,500.00
Annie Armstrong Easter Offering	\$ 5,200.00
Heck-Jones Memorial Offering	\$ 1,000.00
State Missions Offering	<u>\$ 2,600.00</u>
Total	\$18,700.00

One of the projects of Baptist Women over many years had been to the giving of Family Bibles to all of the brides married in the church. It was pointed out at one of the Baptist Women Council Meetings that young men who grew up in our church and were married in other churches did not receive the Bible at the time of their marriages. It was voted to give Bibles to all church members who were being married, regardless of whether they were young men or women.

"For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens." Among those whom God called to the house not made with hands were Mrs. O.L. Carpenter, Mrs. M.A. Huggins, Mrs. T.W. Johnson, Mrs. John Jordan, Mrs. E.S. Norwood, Mrs. Florence Pike, and Miss Lydia Sorrell.

One of the customs of the Baptist Women Groups over the years has been to take at each meeting what was known as "the Blue Box" offering for cards, flowers, and expressions of love and concern for members. The term "Blue Box" originated with Mrs. Florence Pike, who brought a white box tied with blue ribbons for the offering. It is to her that we owe the term which has been used for many years.

The W.M.U. participated in the Bold Mission program of the South-

ern Baptist Convention by taking the lead in the adoption of the West Monmouth Baptist Church of Freehold, New Jersey, as a matching church. The Heck-Jones Offering went to aid the West Monmouth Church.

Mrs. Clyde L. Smith became the W.M.U. Director in 1978. Mrs. C. Gordon Maddrey was again President of Baptist Women. Mrs. Everett Miller was Enlistment Chairman. Missions Action Chairmen were Mrs. Thomas C. Bray and Mrs. M.T. Speir. Mission Support Chairman was Mrs. J. Dick Moore.

The W.M.U. Emphasis for the Year was "Let The Church Reach Out—Bold Missions." The Watchword for the Year "But ye shall receive power, when the Holy Spirit is come upon you: and ye shall be my witnesses." (Act. 1:9ASV). During this year the young people under the leadership of the Reverend Timothy Norman planned and carried out a missions trip to the West Monmouth Baptist Church in New Jersey. The Heck-Jones Offering and other gifts from interested church members totaled more than \$5,000.00. During the Week of Prayer for Home Missions, the minister of the West Monmouth Church came to speak to members of the church, thanking them for the support given to the struggling young church and asking for prayer support as the church continued to grow in an area where there were very few Baptist churches.

Support was given on a continuing basis to a newly-arrived Vietnamese family, the Phong-Sabaths, who arrived in this country with only the clothing on their backs. With the leadership of Mrs. J. Dick Moore and Mrs. Clyde Smith, an apartment was located for the family and the basic necessities were supplied through the efforts of the W.M.U. of the church.

The work of the Royal Ambassadors continued to grow as more leaders were secured, Mr. and Mrs. L.E. Midkiff for Pioneers I and Pioneers II. Coaches were found in order that the boys might participate in the Raleigh Association Basketball games. They were Mr. Clinton Neal, Mr. Lee Ott, and Mr. Duane Tolan.

Total gifts for missions exceeded \$20,000.00 for the year. There were three missionary couples who were remembered by the Groups each month. They were Dr. and Mrs. Winfield Applewhite in Indonesia, Dr. and Mrs. Luther Copeland in Japan, and Mr. and Mrs. Gary Harthcock in Antigua.

"And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am there ye may be also." (John 14:3). Among those whom the Lord received unto Himself were many who had

contributed much to His work here on earth. These were Mrs. N.G. Bartlett, Mrs. J.C. Bowman, Miss Ellen Brewer, Mrs. Irving Goodwin, Mrs. R.G. Parker, Mrs. William H. Penney, Miss Lulie Reynolds, Mrs. E.H. Simpson, Mrs. E. Lloyd Tilley, Mrs. R.G. Townsend, Mrs. B.Y. Tyner, and Mrs. J.W. Vining.

The Young Peoples Organizations continued to have excellent leadership during 1980-81. Acteen Leaders were Mrs. Phil Ford, Miss Patty Gupton, Mrs. Betsy Phillips, Mrs. William Johnson, and Mrs. Jerry Helms. Girls In Action Leaders were Mrs. Clinton Neal, Mrs. Al Moore, Mrs. Mark Purser, Mrs. John Holley, Mrs. John Hobson, and Mrs. Rick Traylor. Missions Friends Leaders were Mrs. William Blackburn, Mrs. Graham Crutchfield and Mrs. Johnny Shaver. Mrs. Jerry Helms and Mrs. L.E. Midkiff were in charge of the Acteens-Girls In Action Recognition Service.

Dr. Timothy Pennell of the Bowman Gray School of Medicine in Winston-Salem, was one of the featured speakers for the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions. Dr. Pennell had recently toured Baptist Hospitals and Mission Stations in Africa. He spoke of the work of keeping our Baptist Hospitals open in parts of the world where medical services were very scarce. The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering exceeded \$20,000.00.

Mrs. J. Everett Miller, President of Baptist Women and the Mission Support Committee planned very informative programs for the Week of Prayer for Home Missions, using the theme "Go Forward!"

The May General Meeting Program in 1981 was led by Mrs. James L. Norris. The topic was "Christian Ambassadors Overseas." The thrust of the program was all Christians can be Ambassadors for Christ as they travel the world, making friends and bringing their Christian love to peoples of every nation.

Also in this month, Betty Ann Haskins Schlegel and her husband, Sam, visited our church. A specially collected love gift was presented to help with their waterfolk ministry.

The State Missions Emphasis was on Baptist Missions Work in resort areas of the state. It was brought out that many persons who would not enter a conventional church might be reached in a natural setting such as the majestic mountains of western North Carolina or the lovely dunes of the Outer Banks.

Beginning in October of 1981, Mrs. J. Dick Moore was again elected W.M.U. Director. There were many families coming to this country from Vietnam, Cambodia, and Afghanistan at this time, having been driven out by the Communists. Mrs. Moore, Mrs. Wayne Jordan and the

Mission Action, Director, Mrs. Roy Purser, Jr., tried to help supply many of the material and spiritual needs of these families. All of the Baptist Women Groups as well as the Young Peoples Organizations were asked to help. The Van family, the Rehore family, and the Paktiaval family were all helped to reestablish themselves and to begin a normal life after having traveled so far to find a safe haven in the United States.

The Program Topic for the Week of Prayer for Home Missions was a very appropriate one: "The World Is Here." Indeed, it seemed that the entire world had begun coming to Raleigh as internationals came on an unprecedented scale. It was during this year that Dr. and Mrs. Robert Culpepper returned from many years of Missions Work in Japan. Kay Culpepper, who spoke the Japanese language fluently, was interested in a cultural exchange with the wives of Japanese businessmen who were located in the area. Mrs. John Hiott and Mrs. James Hamrick were very instrumental in helping to organize the Cultural Exchange which has continued to give an outlet for the Japanese ladies to meet with American women, exchange ideas and information across international barriers.

In 1982, the W.M.U. maintained its momentum with the membership increasing to 306.

Under the leadership of Mrs. Wayne Jordan, the monthly meetings were well attended from the perspectives of interest and information. Two excellent Mission Study Courses were offered. The goals for all four Missions Offerings were exceeded. All Mission Action Groups sponsored and worked diligently for the Raleigh Urban Ministries Center. The Youth Choir went to West Monmouth Baptist Church to lead in song and worship, carrying a love gift of our church. Marie Hiott, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Hiott, was appointed as a Journeyman to Belgium.

In October of 1982, Mrs. Wayne Jordan became the director. Serving with her were:

Mrs. Troy A. Doby	Secretary
Mrs. John Morton	Treasurer
Mrs. Walter Clark	Assistant Treasurer
Mrs. Roy M. Purser, Jr.	Baptist Women's President
Miss Sheila Jordan	Baptist Young Women's President
Mrs. Harry Zepp	Enlistment Chairman
Mrs. C. Gordon Maddrey	Mission Support Chairman
Mrs. J. Dick Moore	Mission Action Director
Mrs. James Keown	Literature Chairman

The Age Level Directors were:

Mrs. J. Dick Moore	Acteens
Mrs. S.M. Crocker, Jr.	Girls-In-Action
Mrs. Kent Dickens	Mission Friends
Mr. Bob Murphy	Royal Ambassadors

Under the leadership of the Mission Action Chairman, Mrs. J. Dick Moore, a large continuing project was undertaken. In cooperation with the Urban Ministry Center, Wake County Department of Social Services and Christ Episcopal Church, the Clothes Closet which served all of Wake County welfare recipients, was moved from Christ Church to First Baptist. This closet sought to meet the continuing needs of not only welfare recipients but the street people and seasonal migrant laborers as well. The closet continued to try to meet the needs of all who entered its doors.

The programs for the year were a reflection of this year's theme: "My World—I'm Ministering In It." Urban Evangelists and Meeting Human Needs were a major emphasis for the year.

The Missions Offering Goals for Home and Foreign Missions were \$12,000.00 for Annie Armstrong and \$20,000.00 for Lottie Moon. The Mission Support Committee under the leadership of Mrs. C. Gordon Maddrey provided excellent programs during the special Weeks of Prayer. The Foreign Missions Offering exceeded \$21,000.00 for the first time and the Home Missions Offering reached almost \$12,000.00.

The Baptist Women had, for many years, wished to establish a missionary residence in order that we might provide housing for missionaries on furlough and that they might become a part of the congregation during the time of their absence from foreign fields. Such an opportunity presented itself in the summer of 1983 when Dr. and Mrs. Henry Turlington, Missionaries in Baguio, the Phillippines, requested housing. Mr. Charles Apperson, Chairman of the Missionary House Committee, secured a residence and the members of the Baptist Women helped to provide needed items for the house.

Two other couples have also been provided with housing. Mr. and Mrs. Gary Harthcock, missionaries to Antigua in the British West Indies, and Mr. and Mrs. Gary Swafford, missionaries to Malawi, West Africa, and family, have also occupied the residence. It has brought the foreign missions fields of the world much closer to the congregation and has given a greater insight into the lives and work of those who have been called by God "unto the uttermost parts of the earth."

The planning for the Acteens, G.A., R.A. Recognition Service was carried out by Mrs. Kent Dickens, Mrs. Wayne Jordan and Mrs. J. Dick

Moore. Thirty-five Royal Ambassadors and fifty-four G.A.'s and Acteens received recognition for work which they had done during the current year.

Mrs. Austin Connors assumed the responsibility for the organization in 1984, serving as W.M.U. Director. Mrs. Claude Gaddy (Mary Lily) was installed as President of Baptist Women. Age Level Directors for the Young People's Organizations were: Missions Friends - Mrs. H. L. Brantley, Girls-In-Action - Mrs. Bob Murphy, Youth-Acteens - Mrs. Kent Dickens and R.A.'s.

Among Baptist Women who had served so faithfully through the years on the Music Committee for General and Special Meetings of W.M.U. were Mrs. William B. Frazier, Mrs. Thomas B. Broughton, Mrs. James Clary, Mrs. S. M. Crocker, III, Mrs. John Hiott, Mrs. James Millen, and Mrs. A. C. Tollison.

In March of 1985, the death of Jean Lewis, the wife of the Senior Minister, was a loss to the entire church but especially to the W.M.U. which she had served faithfully and supported with prayer.

The Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions Theme "And I Will Pray" was especially appropriate as it led into the one hundredth year anniversary of the W.M.U.

Beginning on January 8, 1986, which was the actual date on which the Woman's Central Committee for Missions was organized, one hundred days of prayer were designated, with specific prayer requests for each day. These days of prayer continued until April 17. A One Hundredth Anniversary Celebration was held on January 13, which honored all Past Presidents and Past W.M.U. Directors. More than one hundred fifty persons attended the celebration. Speakers for the meeting were Mr. and Mrs. Gary Swafford, missionaries to Malawi, who spoke of the needs of Africa. A Victorian theme was beautifully carried out using flowers and candelabra decorated as they might have been a century ago. Portraits of Past Presidents of First Baptist who were also State W.M.U. Presidents were prominently displayed.

Through one hundred years, the women of the church have stretched forth their hands to the poor, the sick, the migrant, the prisoner, those who were lost without the saving knowledge of Christ Jesus. The years of service have yielded many fruits, many challenges, but all of these are the prelude. The missions work has expanded from the little band of women to more than 3,000 missionaries in 106 countries of the world. The momentum intensifies as global communication has become possible.

With gratitude for all who preceded us in the faith and with hope for those who follow in our footsteps we "pledge ourselves to work henceforth with Him giving time, money and prayer, that upon such as sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, the light of life may shine."

